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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

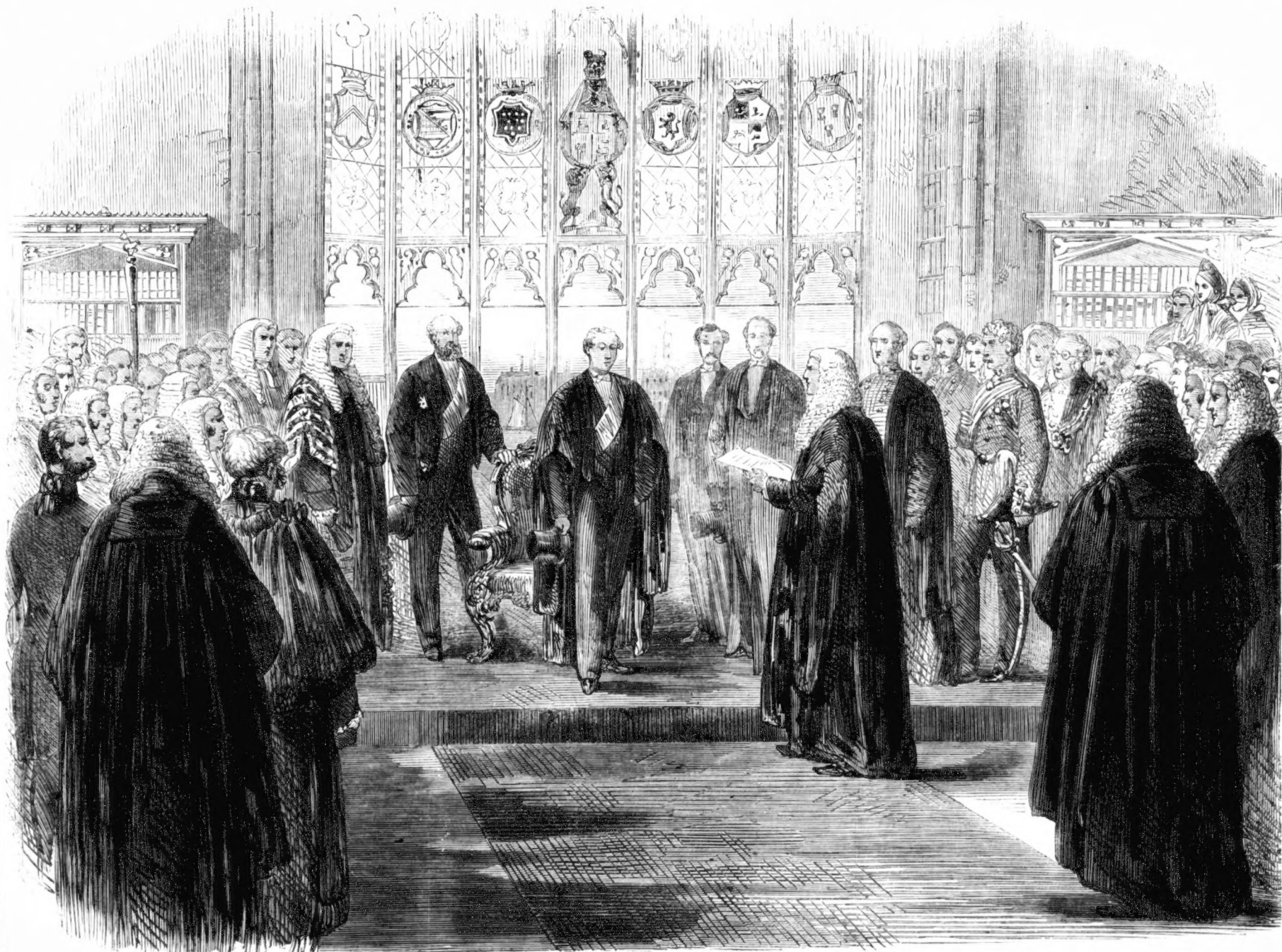
TOPICS OF THE DAY there are none. However fortunate may be the people who have no great historical events to incumber or adorn their annals, the journalist is decidedly an object for compassion who is called upon to prepare his weekly summary with nothing to summarise. He may, of course, invoke the well-known illustration of the Israelite bondsmen required by their hard taskmasters to furnish ever the same tale of bricks, whether straw was provided or stubble had to be gathered. Or, if his learning be of a profane nature, he may aptly allude to the luckless, because too industrious, imp whom Michael Scott, the great wizard of the north, set to work on making ropes with sea-sand. Then, as a last resource, he may look forth from his attic window and tell how the autumnal blasts have stripped the red leaves from the struggling boughs and are sweeping them in eddies round the square. Or, should he haply be a muscular Christian and a votary of the Rector of Eversleigh, he may rejoice in the presence of the east wind, and grow eloquent in praise of nipping frosts and "the fleecy shower." By these various devices he will at length have completed a paragraph, but the topics of the day will be as far from him as before.

All in vain are anxious eyes directed to the banks of the Potomac. Long looked for, a grand battle, it is fondly hoped, may yet be fought—in spite of the belligerents. In the old wars of the Italian Republics, the result of an engagement between opposite rather than opponent bands of condottieri was usually summed up in seven wounded and nine killed, unless, perchance, a man tumbled into a ditch and so was suffocated in his armour. But our American kinsmen have carried the politeness of warfare to still higher perfection, and after a fierce struggle of many hours, with victory hovering alternately over either host, are able to report the capture of a gun without any other casualty on either side. It is said that,

on a certain occasion, the English residents at Boulogne, being desirous to testify their respect for the Royal virtues of the Duchess of Angoulême—the Bourbons being then in the ascendant—got up a grand cricket-match for the entertainment of her Royal Highness. For nearly an hour the Duchess looked on with astonishment as our hardy compatriots hit, or flung, or chased the ball all over the field, till, weary of watching their inexplicable toil, she at length inquired of a gentleman by her side when "*ces Messieurs là*" were going to begin to play." Much the same question, substituting the word "fight" for "play," is very generally being asked touching the vast armies supposed to be manœuvring in North America. Whatever may be the final issue of the quarrel, the moral effect of this dilatoriness upon foreign nations will scarcely be gratifying to Yankee vanity. After all that bluster, and those big, threatening words, they have so long been wont to hurl at their mother country, they are now convicted by their own acts of being nothing more than vainglorious boasters, quick to affront a friend, slow to confront a foe. Even now Mr. Seward appears more disposed to venture upon the comparatively safe course of uttering impertinences where he knows they will simply be treated with contempt than to adopt energetic measures for the suppression of the Southern rebellion. He would do well, however, not to presume too far in relying upon the dignified forbearance usually exhibited by this country towards her ungrateful offshoot. At this moment the temper of the British population may not with impunity be trifled with. Familiarity with the use of arms is apt to engender a spirit swift to take offence, and the manufacturing classes are evidently in no friendly mood towards the Transatlantic Democracy. Already much impatience has been manifested on the subject of the inefficient blockade of the Southern ports proclaimed by the Northern Government; and,

should any great distress be felt during the forthcoming winter it will be very difficult for any Ministry to stand altogether aloof. That an intervention on such grounds would be dishonest and unjustifiable, may be undoubtedly true; but, in the eyes of a starving multitude, the sentiment of national honour would shrink into the most meagre proportions when compared with the necessity of finding employment for themselves and food for their families.

The liberal ideas now taking form and substance in Russia are not unlikely to check the immediate progress of Liberalism. After all, the number of university students throughout the empire is but a drop in the ocean, nor are they supported and strengthened by a recognised public opinion. They are fighting in a thin line without resources to fall back upon, and will therefore be borne down, broken, and dispersed by a single ukase. It is not as if they were merely a few steps in advance of the generation from which they have sprung. They stand isolated by themselves, for there is little in common between their unsettled, shadowy aspirations and the dull contentment of their fathers. Nor does it need any great stretch of imagination to suspect the possibility of false and underhand motives for the recent disturbances. It is quite within the bounds of reason to suppose that these hot-headed youths have been purposely roused to tumultuous and inconsequent action by men entirely opposed to their views, and only desirous to bring them into discredit with the Emperor. Impeded by the ignorance of the many and the shortsighted selfishness of the few, Alexander II. now finds himself face to face with one of the most difficult problems that any Sovereign has ever been called upon to solve. In the early days of English history our Monarchs could always securely calculate upon the powerful assistance of the clergy in any attempt to improve the political and social condition of the people. At a very distant period, too, the mercantile and trading



INAUGURATION OF THE NEW LIBRARY OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM BY HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.



classes made themselves felt in the State, and naturally espoused every movement that tended to promote freedom and commerce. But in Russia the Emperor can look to none of these aids in introducing measures of reform. The priests are far too ignorant and too lowly born to exercise much influence over the aristocracy; and as yet there is no class in existence analogous to our merchants. The shopkeepers, indeed, are favourable to emancipation, because many of them are actually themselves in bondage, though allowed a nominal freedom so long as they pay their annual tribute to their masters. But it is clear that their own condition incapacitates them for taking a very active part in the work that is going on, and that they can offer little to the Emperor beyond their good wishes for his success. Still it is by no means unlikely that these are the men who have been stirred up to sign the petition demanding a Constitution for Russia, though no nation in the world is so little prepared to make a proper use of political rights. Amid all these shoals and sunken rocks it will need a firm hand and steady eye to steer the vessel of the State; but, if common rumour be not a calumny, Alexander II. is not the man now wanted at the helm. Amiable and benevolent, he sincerely desires the happiness of his subjects; but, self-indulgent and averse to sustained application, he is not prepared to sacrifice his own pleasures and comfort for the visionary amelioration of people whom he only knows in the abstract. In any case, the Hungarians may leave out of their calculation of difficulties the chance of Russian intervention in defence of the integrity of the Austrian empire.

All praise to the Italian Government for its wise and prudent daring in suppressing the monasteries and mendicant orders in the southern part of the peninsula. Ignorant peasants, these idle drones lived and fattened upon the abject superstition of their industrious countrymen, and drew their supplies from a poverty greater than their own. Should the Government of Madrid ever be capable of as great an effort, the mists of ignorance and fanaticism would soon roll up from off another noble race, and Spain would gradually become what she was intended to be by Nature, the finest and wealthiest country on the continent of Europe.

THE OPENING OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE LIBRARY.

ANOTHER event was added on the 31st ult. to the long list which associates the Temple at almost every point with the history of the country. The twofold ceremonial of enrolling among its members the Heir to the Throne and the opening of the new Library of the Middle Temple will, doubtless, long be remembered, not only for the lustre which it confers on the annals of the society, but for the brilliancy of the rejoicings by which it was honoured. Royal visits in days gone by were not so frequent at the Middle Temple as of late. The noble Hall was opened by Queen Elizabeth, and tradition relates that on the very day when the Prince of Wales was feasted the "Twelfth Night" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" were acted before her. Henrietta Maria, whose sons, Charles II. and James II., were members respectively of the Middle and Inner Temple, William III., and the Czar Peter were also entertained at various times by masques performed in the Hall; but, though our ancestors may have been more skilled in the management of revelries than this matter-of-fact age, it must be confessed that the duty of maintaining the ancient reputation of the Inn has not fallen into unworthy hands, and the splendid hospitalities of Thursday week equalled any displays of former times.

The library, which on the day in question was formally installed in its new dwelling-place, dates from 1641, when its founder, Robert Ashley, a collateral ancestor of the Earl of Shaftesbury, left his whole library, together with a large sum of money, to the Inn where he had received his legal education. His example was followed by other distinguished Templars of the time, and thus the library was first established. The Irish Lord Chief Justice Peppys was a large benefactor to it. Ashmole, Bartholomew Shower, and William Petyt were among its most liberal supporters. Lord Stowell also left a handsome legacy to it, which was expended chiefly on the purchase of books on civil, canon, and international law. At present it numbers between 15,000 and 16,000 volumes, the greater part of which, it is said, have been acquired within the last thirty years. The most devoted Middle Templar does not speak in enthusiastic terms of the quality of the library as a whole, though it is undoubtedly rich in particular branches. During the latter part of the last century many volumes, in some way or other, disappeared from the shelves altogether, among them some of the most scarce and valuable tracts, and thirty folio volumes of Votes of Parliament. In civil, canon, and international law books, and in the English, Scotch, Irish, and American reports, it is said to be very strong, and there is also a large collection of books on divinity and ecclesiastical history. There is also an ample collection of proclamations and other official documents relating to the times of the Civil War. Of the deficiencies of the library it is unnecessary to speak, for it is to be hoped that in its new home they will be gradually supplied. When the Benchers first determined to build a new Library, Fountain-court was suggested as the best site, but the whole society rose in arms against the proposal to demolish the antique ornament of the Inn, and the present site, which lies close to the river at the end of Garden-court, was then fixed upon. Part of it belonged to the society, but the greater portion had to be purchased, and this bit of sentiment cost the Benchers, it is said, somewhere near £13,000. The first stone of the new building, which, as it fronts so boldly to the river, is pretty well known to the public by this time, was laid by Sir Fortunatus Dwaris in 1853. Its progress has been much impeded by the strike, and but for the energy and liberality of the contractors, Messrs. Myers, it would scarcely have been completed by this time. The lower portion of the building is occupied by chambers, the rents of which, no doubt, will go some way towards repaying the original cost of the building. This is stated to be under £14,000; and, if this be so, it is certainly one of the most economical edifices in the metropolis. The roof of the Library, which reminds one of Westminster Hall, except that it is two centred, is of American pitch-pine—the first time this wood has been used for the purpose in this country. It has been twice treated with boiled oil, which has brought out a rich deep colour. The floor is of Portland stone, in panels, with Portland cement in the centre compartments. There is a stained glass window at each end; the oriel at the south, which certainly would have been more effective had it been carried up two lights higher, is illuminated with the arms of the Royal Princes from the time of Richard Cœur de Lion down to the present Prince of Wales; and the window at the north, which is one of the finest specimens of stained glass in the country, represents the shields of all who have been Benchers during the time of its erection. There are five windows at each side, which cast a dim, studious light

through silvered glass. Over the door is fitly hung the portrait of the founder, Robert Ashley. Altogether, it is really a noble room, and even those who are most disposed to criticise the exterior, when they get inside cannot but admit that it is a credit to the Inn.

Those who know the silent courts and quadrangles in the Temple only as places of solemn, serious business can hardly fancy it in its recent festive aspect. On the wide area of Fountain-court an edifice of canvas had sprung up which seemed illimitable in its capacities. From Middle Temple-lane you stepped into a spacious vestibule adorned with statuary, flowers, and plate glass, where the guests alighted, and where the guard of honour was drawn up to receive his Royal Highness. Beyond that was a dining pavilion, calculated to accommodate some 500 guests, and between that and the Hall there was a long and handsome corridor leading down to the garden, brilliantly illuminated with gas pendants. Groups of statuary, trophies of flags, mirrors, and exotic plants, abounded in all directions; and, instead of hard flag pavement, the foot trod on the softest carpeting. The weather was most propitious, mild, and open, and the awning which had been continued all the way from the pavilion to the Library might very well have been dispensed with. By one o'clock the corridors and all the open spaces on the line of procession began to fill with the barristers and their friends, who were directed by their tickets to range themselves there. The Library, too, was filled even earlier. The Benchers showed not only their gallantry, but their good sense, in issuing ladies' tickets with a profuse hand, for the varied hues of their morning costumes were absolutely necessary, in an artistic point of view, to relieve the sombre monotony of the wigs and gowns. About half-past one the guard of honour, consisting of eighty rank and file of the famous Devil's Own, under the command of Captain Lysley and Lieutenant Babington, headed by their band, marched down Middle Temple-lane, and took up their station in the vestibule, and the invited guests began to arrive soon after. Among the first was the Lord Chancellor, who, in his gold-laced robe of office, and attended by his trainbearer, sealbearer, and secretary, was no doubt regarded with wistful eyes by many of the young students who clustered round the steps. Lord Clyde came next, but he, having won his honours in a different field, seemed scarcely so well known as his brother Peer, and entered the Hall almost unnoticed. The Duke of Cambridge, attended by Colonel Clifford, C.B., came next, and after him followed in rapid succession Lord Cranworth; Vice-Chancellors Kundersley, Wood, and Stuart; Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, the Lord Chief Baron, Lord Chief Justice Erle—all three, as well as the Lord Chancellor, members of the Inn—Mr. Justice Byles, Mr. Justice Blackburn, Mr. Justice Wiles, Mr. Justice Keating, Mr. Baron Channell, Mr. Baron Martin, Sir Lawrence Peel, Sir Cresswell Cresswell, the Master of the Temple, Lord J. Manners, Mr. Milner Gibson, the Attorney and Solicitor General, the Lord Mayor, Sheriff Cockerell and Twentyman, the Recorder of London, and the Treasurers of the Inner Temple, Lincoln's Inn, and Gray's Inn. As each arrived he was conducted to the old Parliament Chamber, his style and title being duly proclaimed at the door by that ubiquitous M.C., Mr. Harker.

THE PRINCE MADE A BENCHER.

Punctuality is the politeness of Princes; and it was just on the stroke of two when the cheers of the crowd outside, which were taken up and continued down Middle Temple-lane, announced that his Royal Highness had arrived. The Treasurer, Mr. Anderson, Q.C., and the Attorney-General to the Prince, Sir W. Alexander, Q.C., were awaiting him in the vestibule, and conducted him to the new Parliament Chamber, where the Benchers had assembled, the guard of honour presenting arms and the band playing "God Save the Queen." Here the Benchers were first presented in due form, and afterwards two representatives of the barristers, Mr. E. F. Moore and Mr. H. W. Bask, and two representatives of the students, Mr. Wotherspoon and Mr. Bullen, together with Mr. Abraham, the architect of the Library, had also the honour of being presented. A Parliament was then formed of the Masters of the Bench present. The proceedings here were very short, and, unlike a Parliament in another place, very little time was wasted in words. The Master Treasurer moved, and the Lord Chancellor seconded, first, "that his Royal Highness be admitted a member of the Middle Temple," and, next, "that his Royal Highness be called to the degree of the outer Bar, and that the oath, on publication of the call, be dispensed with." There being no opposition, both motions were carried unanimously, and the Prince was invested with the Bar gown and subscribed the call-book. The next motion, also by the Treasurer, and seconded by the Lord Chancellor, was "that his Royal Highness be invited to the Bench." This motion was also agreed to, and the Prince assumed the Benchers' gown, and took his seat as a Master of the Bench, at the right hand of the Treasurer. The new Master next moved "that the Parliament do adjourn and proceed to open the Library."

THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY.

This concluded the proceedings in the Parliament, and a procession was then formed to the Library, the Prince of Wales and the Treasurer leading the way, the Lord Chancellor and the Duke of Cambridge next, and the other Benchers and visitors following in their order of precedence. Each side of the passage down the corridor and along the garden terrace was by this time densely crowded, and in the Library it was with some difficulty that a way was kept clear from one end to the other. Arrived in the Library, the Prince took his station on the dais in the bay window, and the Treasurer read an address, thanking his Royal Highness for attendance to open the new Library, and referring to the importance of the study of juridical science, and the anxiety of the Masters of the Bench to afford every facility for acquiring a knowledge of the laws of the country, to the members and students of the Society of the Middle Temple. To this address the Prince made a suitable reply, his voice being so clear and distinct that every one in the crowded room heard every word with perfect ease. His Royal Highness expressed his deep sense of the value of legal knowledge, and paid a tribute of admiration to the learning and integrity of the Bench and Bar of this country, concluding with a graceful allusion to the many eminent lawyers who had been educated in the Middle Temple, and expressing a hope that future students there would emulate the character and acquirements of their predecessors.

The Prince then signified his pleasure to the Treasurer that the Library be opened, and the Treasurer then said, "By command of his Royal Highness, the Library is declared to be opened." This concluded the two ceremonials, which together did not last more than half an hour, and the procession left the Library in the same order, and went to the Temple Church, where there was a special service which had been drawn up by the Master, Dr. Robinson.

THE BANQUET AND CONVERSATION.

At four o'clock some 750 guests sat down to what was modestly called a *déjeuner*, but which was, in fact, a sumptuous banquet. In the Hall there was not room for more than 250, including the guests on the dais; the rest were accommodated in the pavilion hard by. The paintings at the east end, particularly the Vandyke Charles I., showed with fine effect. The air was perfumed, but not overlaid, with the fumes of *eau-de-Cologne*, distributed by means of several Rimmel's newly-invented perfume-vaporisers; and the decorations of the table were light and elegant, comprising flowers, heaths, and ferns, in neatly-arranged groups. The Treasurer was in the chair, having the Prince on his right and the Duke of Cambridge on his left hand. Lord Brougham and the Bishop of London joined the company at dinner. The gallery over the screen was filled with ladies. As previously arranged, there were no speeches. The Treasurer gave, in rapid succession, "The Queen," "The Prince Consort," "The Prince of Wales," "The Duke of Cambridge and the rest of the Royal Family," all of which were duly honoured.

The Prince of Wales then rose and said, "Gentlemen I wish all

prosperity to the profession, and I beg leave to give you 'Domus.' The speech and toast, it is needless to say, were received with great enthusiasm. Shortly afterwards the Prince left the Hall, accompanied by the other visitors, loudly cheered, as upon entering. Sir Lawrence Peel presided in the pavilion, where the same toasts were given and honoured with equal warmth.

The day was brought to a close by an evening conversation, for which the Prince did not remain. He left immediately after the *déjeuner*, after expressing to the Master his high gratification at the events of the day.

The stream of visitors to the Library was continuous all through the evening, and to get up and down the narrow staircase was a labour requiring no ordinary patience. The little garden, with its rippling fountain, tasteful arcades, and masses of pompones, was beautifully illuminated by the electric light, and was never without its crowd of promenaders.

The general arrangements for the accommodation and marshalling of the guests were excellent, and did great credit to all concerned in carrying them out. Though there must have been at one time pretty nearly a thousand people collected together in that small area, the complete success of the day was not marred by the slightest confusion, nor, as far as could be known, by a single disappointment. The task of making the whole of the arrangements had been confided to Mr. H. Green, King William-street, and, as the event proved, the selection was a most judicious one. We understand that the Treasurer of the Society of the Middle Temple has since communicated to Mr. Green the high appreciation the members entertain of the excellence of the arrangements he made for the occasion.

Our illustrations will give a vivid idea of the most interesting features of the day's proceedings. They exhibit the reception of the Prince on his arrival, the ceremony of inaugurating the Library, and the scene presented in the gardens in the evening.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The brothers of the King of Portugal have arrived in Paris, and will visit the Emperor at Compiègne.

Besides M. Ratazzi, who still remains in Paris, the King of Italy has dispatched to Paris a military agent, General de Revel, who, it is currently believed, has a most important mission in connection with Italian armaments and certain contingencies next spring.

The French Government has again thought it necessary to repudiate its connection with those journals which are denominated "semi-official," to prevent the public from forming wrong ideas of the Emperor's policy by the controversies now being carried on between several journals; and, in order to at once cut short all false commentaries, the *Moniteur* announces that it is the sole organ of the policy of the Government, and that no semi-official journal exists in France. This is all very well; but so long as the press continues shackled, and writers in certain journals are known to be in confidential communication with members of the Government, and, it is said, of the Emperor himself, so long will discussions on the internal and external policy of the Emperor be regarded as emanating from official sources, and more or less importance be attached to them.

FRANCE AND SWITZERLAND.

A new "difficulty" has arisen between France and Switzerland. The Valley of the Dappes is a wild district with a single village in it, has hitherto been regarded as a sort of debatable land on the borders of the recognised territory of the Swiss Confederation, and was a refuge to which petty offenders were in the habit of flying to escape the officers of justice. One such fugitive recently took sanctuary there, the Swiss authorities sent an officer to apprehend him, and the French interposed to prevent the capture. Thereupon a very pretty quarrel has arisen: the Swiss Government complain of a violation of the neutrality of the Valley of the Dappes; the French authorities deny the allegation, and diplomatic notes have been exchanged upon the subject. The latest accounts state that France has offered to enter into negotiations with Switzerland on the subject of the Valley of Dappes, in order to arrive at some arrangement by which every possible guarantee may be given to Switzerland in regard to the neutrality of the valley.

SPAIN.

An attempt at insurrection has again been made by the Republican party in Spain. It is described as being entirely abortive and insignificant. The leaders were arrested, and, if we may believe the news arriving from Madrid, no military force had to be used.

ITALY.

The Italian Parliament is to be called together for the 20th of this month.

General Turr is about to start, or actually has started, for Capri. This fact may have political significance.

The official decree suppressing certain religious establishments of Naples has been published. Baron Ricasoli has also addressed a circular to the clergy generally, complaining of the interference of a portion of the sacerdotal order to excite disturbances in the country, and appealing to their patriotism and religious principles to induce them to discontinue this mischievous and fruitless course of conduct. It is further stated that the Italian Premier daily receives, from all parts of Italy, letters from priests declaring that they adhere to Father Passaglia's opinions on the expediency of separating the spiritual from the temporal power. The President of the Council will not publish these letters at present; but, when the proper time comes, the fanatical defenders of the temporal power will be dumfounded at the spectacle of the immense progress of liberal doctrines among the members of the Italian clergy.

General Della Marmora has arrived in Naples, and assumed the duties of his office as Governor and Commander-in-Chief. On Tuesday he received the Staff of the National Guard, and addressed them in a speech in which he said he had reason to hope that the Bourbons would soon leave Rome.

An expedition, composed of 400 Bourbonites, which was being organised at Malta, has been prevented from proceeding by the arrest of the chief accomplices at Naples. At Salerno some French engineers have fallen victims to the brigands.

Heavy rains have caused great destruction on the railway from Rome to Civita Vecchia. The traffic has been interrupted in consequence. The locomotive of one train was thrown off the rails, but none of the passengers were hurt.

VENETIA.

Disturbances have broken out in Venetia, but not disturbances of the character which might naturally be expected. There is nothing national or patriotic in them. Some bands of peasants near Vicenza have arisen and seized upon the crops and holdings of landed proprietors. A peculiarity about the event is that the peasant bands went round with shouts of "Austria for ever!" and acted without receiving any check from the Austrian authorities. Indeed, the Austrian military commander of the district is said to have been highly gratified by the proceeding. These disturbances may be the work of reactionary emissaries, or simply the ordinary result of agrarian disputes and scarcity; but for the Austrian authorities to allow the owners of property to suppose that the outbreak of a *jacquerie* has the support of the dominating power is not very likely to imbue with a greater love for Austrian rule those who already are so little disposed to endure it. The origin of these disturbances, whatever may have been the conduct of the Austrian officials in regard to them, appears to have no connection with politics. The following letter from a correspondent in Vicenza explains the matter:—

In our province the Government and military authorities have attempted to reverse the *procurator* perpetrated about fifteen years ago at Tarnow, in Galicia. The *procurator* was a right of pasture, granted under the Austrian Republic to the poor. In course of time it was diverted from its original object and became the property of certain individuals, who either leased the right to others, or else made the proprietor of the land give them compensation for it. Many communes freed themselves in 1820 from this burden by buying up the right from the holders, but in others it continued to exist. In 1860 a decree was issued by the Lieutenant of Venetia abolishing the right altogether, and obliging the communes to grant pecuniary compensation to the possessors; a commission was also instituted for the purpose of fixing the rate of compensation. For the last two years troops have been quartered in the rural communes with the secret injunction to ingratiate themselves with the peasantry, and excite them against the great landlords, and the clergy lending its aid, the minds of the peasantry were corrupted, and occasionally a radical change of opinion would become apparent in their acts and conversation, whence it became clear that they only awaited a favourable opportunity for an outbreak. This has now presented itself on the return of the period—viz., from Oct. 16 to March 23—when the peasants in other times used to lead their flocks to the pastures. Accordingly, a few days ago, the meadows of Sarcodo, near Trieste, were invaded by peasants, armed with sticks and pitchforks; the proprietors were threatened, and some ill-treated; menaces of setting fire to the houses of certain obnoxious individuals were heard; the stables were forced open, and the people obliged to drive their cattle out to graze. The troops did not interfere; but the commissary of police of Trieste caused several arrests to be made, and legal proceedings had actually commenced, when General Gablenz sent orders to set the prisoners at liberty at once, and to stop the proceedings. Of course, the riots now continue worse than ever.

PRUSSIA.

It is stated the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia will shortly have an interview at Breslau, and the meeting is likely to take place on the 12th or 13th inst. Contradictions of this statement have, however, been published.

Disturbances have recently taken place in Posen. A demonstration had been projected for the 28th ult. in memory of the Poles lately massacred in Warsaw. The authorities interdicted the demonstration, which accordingly did not take place. But some hundreds of persons, principally of the working classes, formed a gathering in one part of the town, and, as the police considered the demonstration alarming, they were summoned to disperse. They did not comply promptly, and were at last forcibly dispersed by the police. The military were not called out.

BADEN-BADEN.

The elections to the Chamber of Deputies, which took place on Thursday, the 21st of October, resulted in the return of an immense majority of Liberals. The Ultramontanes have not succeeded in electing a single candidate.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The official *Gazette* of Vienna emphatically contradicts the rumour which has been stirring of late to the effect that France had entered into negotiations with Austria, on behalf of Italy, for the cession of Venice.

The Emperor of Austria has informed the Chancellor of Hungary that this is not a time when he can comply with his request to visit Pesth. The opposition of the Hungarians to the Government is increasing, and most of the public bodies are refusing to aid in the recruiting for the army. The *Tavernicus* has also resigned. All public meetings in Hungary have been forbidden. According to the Vienna papers the administration of Hungary will be placed in the hands of a Governor, Field Marshal Count Palffy, and the present Obergespanns will be superseded, the Assembly of the Comitats dissolved, and military tribunals established throughout the country. The effect of these measures is to place Hungary under military rule.

The Cardinal Primate of Hungary has had an interview with the Emperor of Austria, before whom he was summoned to appear. The interview is said to have lasted half an hour, during which the Cardinal Primate declared that the publication of his letter to the Chancellor of Hungary had taken place without his knowledge; but the Primate adhered to the opinions he had expressed in the letter, and maintained that any other representations than those which the document contained would have been dishonest and untrue. The Primate then returned to Gran.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor has returned to St. Petersburg. The university disputes in Russia appear to be assuming very serious dimensions. News has been received that the students in Moscow had created such violent disturbances that the military had been called in to quell them. Similar disturbances are also reported from Kazan and Charkow, and there was no doubt that an understanding had been come to among the students of all the universities. A petition for the release of the students who had been arrested, and that a constitution should be granted to Russia, had been signed in Moscow by 17,000 persons.

Matters continue in much the same state in Poland as at our last notices. Chronic discontent existed everywhere, and the Government and the people were looking with jealous and watchful eyes upon each other. It is reported that several Englishmen had been seriously maltreated by the troops.

TURKEY AND MONTENEGRO.

Another defeat of the Turkish troops by the Montenegrins is reported. The Turks, some two or three thousand in number, while marching on Grahovo were, it is said, repulsed by the insurgents, and pursued as far as Trebigne. This report is so similar to a former one that it probably relates to the same affair.

SOUTH AMERICA.

An old quarrel in the Argentine Confederation has been renewed, and has led to an important battle. There are two parties in the States known as the Argentine Confederation of Republics, which are called the Constitutional and Anarchical parties, but which may be described more intelligibly as the parties of the towns and of the country districts. At the head of the former is the Republic of Buenos Ayres, which two years ago was forcibly compelled to join the Confederation. The leader of the armies of Buenos Ayres is General Mitre, and at the head of their opponents is General Urquiza. On the 17th of September the armies of the two parties, thus led, met at Pavon, on the frontiers of Santa Fé, to the number of from 16,000 to 18,000 on each side, and a battle was fought in which General Mitre and the Buenos Ayreans were completely victorious, having driven their opponents from the field and captured 1200 prisoners, together with nearly all the cannon, ammunition, stores, &c., of the Argentine forces. This victory is expected to put an end to the dispute for the present, to give greater freedom to Buenos Ayres, and permit of the settlement of these long-disturbed countries.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The news received from the Cape of Good Hope is satisfactory. Our relations with the border tribes were peaceful, all alarm as to the intentions of Ketchweyo and the Zulus having passed away. The native tribes were, however, engaged in furious internecine wars. Intelligence had been received from Drs. Livingstone and Mackenzie to the 15th of May, at which date all were well and in good spirits. Trade was increasing at the Cape, and the crop of wool promised to be the best ever known.

ROYAL MARINES FOR MEXICO.—Orders have been issued for 800 Marines to be held in readiness to embark for service in the Mexican expedition. Of these 500 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men are to be selected from the Plymouth division. It is probable that many of the recently-commissioned ships and ships about to be commissioned will shortly be found on their way to join the Mexican squadron.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

THE correspondence between Lord Lyons and Mr. Seward regarding the imprisonment of British subjects has been published in the American newspapers. Lord Lyons, in the name of the English Government, vehemently complains of the proceedings of the United States Government as being at variance with the ties of amity between the two countries and a violation of the American Constitution. Mr. Seward, in a lengthy reply, describes the circumstances under which the two British subjects in question were arrested with a view to show that the Government was justified in regarding them as objects of suspicion, and that when their innocence was made apparent they were at once liberated. Mr. Seward then defends the adoption of extreme measures on the ground of the exigencies of the country in a time of civil war when battling for its existence; and, with some sarcasm, remarks that "the British Government will hardly expect that the President will accept their explanations of the Constitution of the United States." Mr. Seward, at the same time, argues that the President has in no respect exceeded his powers.

A battle was fought near Leesburg on the 21st ult. between the advanced column of the Federal troops under General Stone and a body of Confederates under General Evans, in which the former were eventually compelled to abandon the field and fall back across the Potomac, with the loss of 600 men, including General Baker, killed. The Confederate loss was unknown. The Federal troops were subsequently reinforced, and marched upon Leesburg, but, on the approach of two strong columns of Confederates, again retreated into Maryland.

There had been some fight at Harper's Ferry. Colonel Geary's force across the river on Bolivar Heights, consisting of 450 men with three guns, was attacked by 2500 infantry and 500 cavalry with seven guns. The fight lasted eight hours. Colonel Geary lost four killed, nine wounded, one missing; killed 150 Confederates, and took three prisoners, and one 32-pounder, the latter by a bayonet charge, described as being "terribly magnificent." There was a tremendous cannonade from flank and front, and well-directed attacks of infantry and cavalry; but impetuous bayonet charges repulsed the enemy, and the gun was taken and retaken in the same manner.

There was also a report that the Federalists had routed a body of the Confederates in Missouri, and that an attack upon the Confederate Camp at Wild Cat, in Kentucky, had been repulsed. The Confederates had effectually closed the Lower Potomac, their batteries commanding every point below Washington, and thereby stopping the navigation of the river. Considerable apprehensions were in consequence felt as to obtaining supplies for the capital and the large army in and near it.

The Secretary of War had paid a visit to General Fremont in Missouri, had ordered all outstanding accounts to be sent in to Washington for examination, and otherwise curtailed the General's freedom of action. It was stated with confidence that General Fremont would shortly be superseded, and that General Hunter would be placed in command in the west.

A naval expedition, composed of 80 vessels, carrying 500 guns and between 30,000 and 40,000 men, was to sail from Hampton on the 27th ult.

The Confederate account of the engagement at New Orleans is asserted to have been exaggerated. The Federals sustained no loss, either in ships or men. The Confederates retreated to Santa Rosa, after having suffered heavy loss.

IRELAND.

MAYNOOTH COLLEGE.—It is contemplated to hold a great Protestant demonstration on the subject of the Maynooth endowment in Dublin. Mr. Whalley, M.P., is to attend.

AFRAY ON BOARD AN AUSTRIAN VESSEL.—A serious affray took place on board an Austrian vessel at Belfast last week. It appears that a bottomry bond had been given by the former captain of the *Vittoria S.*, of Trieste, to a Liverpool firm, for the sum of £500, which the owner and present master of the vessel, Giuseppe Spadoni, disputed his liability to pay. The law courts in Dublin were consequently moved in the matter, and the Under-Sheriff of Antrim was sent to arrest Spadoni. He was met by the crew, armed, who resisted the seizure. They spread the Austrian flag in the gangway, and threatened violence to any man who trod upon it. The Under-Sheriff procured assistance, the crew then surrendered, and Spadoni was captured in the hold, taken ashore, and lodged in goal.

OBSEQUIES OF MR. BELLEVUE M'ANUS.—One of the would-be Irish patriots of the Smith O'Brien and Meagher repeal agitation, who was banished by sentence of a court of justice for treason after the Cabbage-garden affair, died recently in America, and his remains having been brought home to Ireland, a great demonstration was intended to have been made by the Young Ireland party on the occasion of their interment at Queenstown. Archbishop Cullen, however, interdicted a portion of the religious ceremonies intended to have been celebrated, and the affair in consequence has been considerably denuded of its intended effects. A requiem high mass was celebrated, however, in the church at Queenstown for the repose of the soul of the deceased. The chapel and altar had been hung with black, and in the aisle in front of the altar was a catafalque, on which was placed the coffin. Around the catafalque and upon it, surrounding the coffin, were a large number of lights. The coffin was made of highly-polished rosewood, very elegantly carved and silver-mounted. On the lid was a silver plate, on which were engraved the name of the deceased, the date of his birth, the date of his death and his age, forty years. Over this were engraved symbolical figures of Ireland—a round tower, and the sun rising from behind some hills; and beneath it were branches of shamrocks. Inside this was a leaden coffin, which inclosed the original one in which Mr. Manus had been interred in California.

THE WEATHER.—There has been a great and sudden change in the weather. For weeks it had been as mild as summer, but November was ushered in with intense cold, the Wicklow mountains being white with snow on Saturday morning. The thermometer, which in the middle of last week indicated 65 deg. in the shade, fell on Saturday to 47 deg. In districts about Rathfriland, in the county of Wicklow, the roads are reported as dangerous from the ice, a foot of snow lying in some places.

A STRANGE SAIL.—A craft of remarkable rig and build made her appearance in Belfast harbour last week, and attracted great attention. She hoists the "Stars and Stripes," and hails from Philadelphia, under the name of the *Jonathan May*. She has three taper and lofty masts, stout enough for a sloop-of-war, but carries no crossyards whatever. In length she rivals a steamer of considerable tonnage, and her breadth of beam and spread of canvas are amazing. She is of beautiful mould in the hull, and evidently a "skimmer of the seas." This rare specimen of American naval architecture is loaded to the scuppers with breadstuffs.

SCOTLAND.

SHIPBUILDING ENTERPRISE ON THE CLYDE.—Great activity in the shipbuilding trade prevails on the Clyde, and the apprehensions regarding the stagnation of business during the present winter which prevailed recently are materially lessened, owing to the cheering prospect of continued briskness in the manufacture of ships throughout the ensuing year, which will give employment to hundreds of artisans. The principal features of the trade are the contracts with the French Government to build a number of vessels for the Transatlantic mail line, the completion of the *Black Prince*, the construction of five "screws," of tonnage varying from 600 to 1600 tons, and several large vessels which are to form a fleet of first-class steamships between the Clyde and Quebec.

THE MOAT OF URR.—The lands of Milton or Stend of Urr were recently sold, and the circumstance has attracted attention to some features of interest in the topography and history of the property. The beautiful Moat of Urr, the largest and best in preservation of any similar ancient moat in Scotland, is situated on the property, and in ages long gone by was the principal place in Galloway where justice was dispensed by the ancient Kings of the province. The lands also possess a traditional interest from the following circumstance. King Robert Bruce, during his early struggles for the throne, encountered a body of English forces from Buittle Castle near the moat. The Southrons were defeated, after a personal conflict their leader, Sir Walter Selby, being taken prisoner by Bruce. The lands were then occupied by a person named Spottie, whose wife provided water to wash the blood from Bruce and his prisoner, and invited them into the cottage. The King had taken no food for nearly two days, and he asked if the woman could give them anything to eat. She said she had nothing but oatmeal, and would make a cog (a wooden dish) of brose, which she did. The King asked what reward she would have, when she replied, as much of the land her husband occupied as she could run round while the brose was being eaten. The request was agreed to by the King, and she, lifting up

her dress, started off at full speed. The brose was scalding hot, and the woman only left one spoon, so that by the time the dish was emptied, and the King and Sir Walter had gone outside the cottage, the woman, with agile speed, had made the circuit of nearly the farm. The Spottes held the property for many generations. The tenure was a dish of buttered brose presented to the King when he visited the neighbourhood. Should our beloved Sovereign, on her next visit to the Green Isle, pass through Galloway, she would be entitled to demand from the superior of the lands a dish of buttered brose.

LORD ELGIN AND THE FIFESHIRE VOLUNTEERS.—On Saturday last the Fifeshire Rifles met for review by the Earl of Elgin, Lord Lieutenant of the county, at Dunfermline. His Lordship addressed the men assembled, congratulating them upon their soldierly appearance, and concluded his remarks as follows:—"We who are called upon to serve our country in distant parts of the world appreciate more strongly than any others can do the importance of the volunteer movement, because we know that when serving in those distant quarters our homes are secure in the hands of the volunteers; and perhaps I may feel this the more, because I am going to a part of the empire where, unfortunately, a large portion of the army of England has necessarily been stationed. It is, therefore, doubly gratifying for us to know that we have stout hearts at home on whom we can rely."

THE PROVINCES.

THE PROCTORIAL SYSTEM IN CAMBRIDGE.—An émeute in connection with the administration of the proctorial system took place at Cambridge on Friday week. On that evening, between seven and eight o'clock, two women, named Haylett and Odley, were walking along St. Andrew's-street, when they were met by the Rev. T. T. Perowne, of Corpus College, one of the pro-Proctors, and were forthwith consigned to the custody of the attendants or "bulldozers," with the view of their removal to the Spinning-house. The women, however, put in a demurrer by refusing to "budge an inch" for any Proctor in the University. The threats of the "bulldozers" and the squalor of the Proctor were all alike in vain: go they would not. Meantime a crowd collected and continued increasing till quite 700 people were gathered round, and the battle raged faster than before. Another of the University Proctors, arrived to the assistance of his colleague with his two attendants, and the odds were materially against the girls, who, however, abated not a jot of their determination, and it became quite evident that a violent struggle would result if their capture was persevered in. After a considerable amount of violence had been used to the Proctors, who were liberally abused by the mob, and all efforts having failed to get the girls along by fair means, they were allowed to go at large, the abandonment of the capture being hailed by the crowd with loud derisive cheers.

MURDER AND SUICIDE BY A MOTHER.—On Friday week Mr. Greenwood, a farmer, living near Mytholmroyd, had gone to that place on business, and while away his wife cut the throat of her little daughter, about five years old, after which she cut her own throat, and ran, bleeding profusely, into the house of a neighbour named Sutcliffe, and then back into her own house. She still had the razor in her hand. It was taken from her, and the mother pointed to the child in an adjoining room, with its head almost severed from its body. The little girl's hands were tied with a shred of cotton lining. Mrs. Greenwood has been in a desponding state of mind for some time, but not so much so as to cause much alarm. Mrs. Greenwood soon expired.

THE ROAD MURDER.—The following inscription has been placed in Coulston churchyard on the tombstone raised to the memory of the murdered infant, Saville Kent:—"To the memory of Francis Saville Kent, the dearly-loved son of Samuel Saville and Mary Drew Kent, who was cruelly murdered at Road, June 30, 1860. Aged three years and ten months. 'Shall not God search this out?' for He knoweth the secrets of the heart."

A MAN ABANDONED AT SEA.—The English screw-steamer *Marco Bozzaris* foundered at sea on the 16th ult., about 200 miles from Malta. When the case of the steamer became hopeless, a Norwegian barque bove in sight, and the life-boat with ten men left the *Marco Bozzaris* to proceed to the barque. They were to leave six men on board and to return with four men to take another portion of the crew; but on their getting on board the barque they (with the exception of two) refused to return and rescue the remainder of the crew. When the captain and the rest saw themselves so abandoned they set to work to clear the other life-boat. In getting her into the water she was stove very dangerously, but floated, and the remainder of the crew crowded into her. In their hurry to get away they abandoned Dawson, of Hull, a seaman who had been shipped at Constantinople. When this poor fellow found himself thus abandoned, in a sinking ship in a heavy storm in the dead of the night, his cries to be taken also became heartrending, but from the damaged state of the boat they did not think it prudent to return, and thus the poor fellow was left to his fate. In the morning no sign of the vessel was to be seen.

SUSPECTED MURDER IN STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday morning last the body of a man named William Lewis was found in the road at Hall-green, near Bilston, Staffordshire, with such marks of ill-usage upon it as to lead to the suspicion that the unfortunate man had been murdered. Suspicion rests upon a man named Hickman, a watchman, who had been heard to threaten the deceased, but who denies all knowledge of the affair. Hickman was seemingly the object of the perpetrator of the crime, as Lewis's pockets were turned inside out and his week's wages, which he was believed to have about his person, were gone.

SHORT TIME IN LANCASHIRE.—It appears from returns which have been obtained that there are at present in Lancashire 292 mills working full time; 76, working five days a week; 300, working four days; 119, working three days; and 49 altogether stopped. Of the persons connected with the Lancashire manufactures, there are 64,393 working full time; 15,572 working five days; 35,397 working four days; 28,832 working three days; and 8063 altogether idle. These returns do not quite embrace all the Lancashire district, but may be taken as a fair indication of the present state of matters in that quarter.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.—A sad incident is recorded from Ashton, near Preston. The body of a child was discovered in a pond by two boys, and, after information was conveyed to the police, the pond was searched, and the body of a young woman was also found in the water. From subsequent inquiry it appears that the young woman is the mother of the child, and it is supposed that she committed suicide about the 22nd of October, making herself at the same time the murderer of her child.

SHAKESPEARE'S GARDEN.—The Rev. J. C. Halliwell, having obtained several subscriptions to the fund for purchasing the Shakespeare gardens at Stratford-on-Avon, has secured the purchase, but the fund is still £600 deficient. Mr. Halliwell proposes to raise as much as will enable other portions of property connected with the great dramatist to be bought, and so be secured in all time coming from the danger of desecration to which the garden was recently exposed. We hope this proposal will meet with prompt appreciation and support.

A COMPASSIONATE JUDGE.—A learned and compassionate Judge in Texas, on passing sentence on John Jones, who had been convicted of murder, concluded his remarks as follows:—"The fact is, Jones, the Court did not intend to order you to be executed before next spring, but the weather is very cold; our goal, unfortunately, is in a very bad condition; much of the glass in the windows is broken; the chimneys are in such a dilapidated state that no fire can be made to render your apartments comfortable; besides, owing to the great number of prisoners, not more than one blanket can be allowed to each; to sleep sound and comfortable, therefore, would be out of the question. In consideration of these circumstances, and wishing to lessen your sufferings as much as possible, the Court, in the exercise of its humanity and compassion, hereby orders you to be executed to-morrow morning, as soon after breakfast as may be convenient to the Sheriff and agreeable to you."

THE AUSTRIAN PRESS AND THE POPE.—A Vienna journal, the *East and West*, has commenced a series of spirited articles directed against the temporal power of the Pope. It boldly affirms that nothing but advantage to the Catholic religion can result from the overthrow of the temporal power; and declares that no result can be more certain than that Rome must, with or without the consent of the Pope, become the capital of Italy. These sentiments must be read with amazement in Vienna, where such opinions, however they may force their way in from abroad, are at all events not supposed to be indigenous.

NARROW ESCAPE AT NIAGARA FALLS.—One evening lately, while a party of gentlemen were making a tour of Goat Island by moonlight, one of the party, Mr. Perry Clarke, inadvertently ventured too near the edge of the rock forming a portion of the central fall. At this point the earth above the rock is insecure, and when Mr. Clarke pressed forward to catch a closer view of the torrent the earth gave way under his feet and he fell upon the rock below. In the partial darkness it was almost impossible to discover Mr. Clarke's position, and for a moment the gentlemen upon the abutment were fearful he had been swept over the fall. All was confusion, and in the hour of the catastrophe it was difficult to hear the cries for help. At this moment, however, Mr. Howard Paul, of London, who was one of the gentlemen forming the party, sprang forward, and instantly removing his coat, prostrated himself upon the bank, and, clinging to the stump of a tree, threw an end of the garment to the unfortunate gentleman, and succeeded, at the risk of his own life, in rescuing Mr. Clarke from his perilous and fearful position. When discovered he was hanging from the rock which abuts from the central fall within a foot of the immense sheet of falling water, 150 ft. in depth. Had it not been for the courage and presence of mind of Mr. Paul there would have been added another to the list of those who have lost their lives by venturing too near the dangers of the Niagara Falls.



THE FORT OF KLOBUCK ON THE MONTENEGRIN FRONTIER.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. NISSE.)

FORT KLOBUCK, ON THE MONTE- NEGRIN FRONTIER.

THE affairs of Montenegro having occupied the attention of a commission which met for the settlement of the difficulties which led to hostilities, would still seem to be far from any definite and final arrangement; and it may be doubted whether the adverse spirit which has so long actuated the Montenegrin people against their Turkish enemies will be quelled by such means as have hitherto been used. The opposition has been of too long standing, the hatred too traditional, the causes of it too deeply rooted in the national mind, to be easily disposed of by a congress, however favourable to an equitable adjustment of contending claims.

The fort of Klobuck, represented in our illustration, will no doubt occupy an important position in the course of the war now raging between the hostile troops. By its great height, as well as its situation, it commands a large extent of territory, while, as it is upon the frontier, it may be said to be the key of the high country, and may either serve the Turks as a *point d'appui* in every offensive operation, or as an almost impregnable refuge in case of defeat. It was to the Fort of Klobuck that the few unfortunates retired after they had escaped the sanguinary massacre at the defeat of Grahovo. Had the Montenegrins known at that time how to profit by their success, and contrived to take possession of this stronghold, they might have driven the enemy from their country, or at all events would have increased a hundredfold those difficulties which are even now almost insurmountable.

THE FRENCH MINISTER AT TURIN.

THE Plenipotentiary of France at Turin may be supposed to occupy a position of considerable trust, and one which requires no small ability in representing the policy of his Government to the Court of the King of Italy.

The experience of M. Vincent Benedetti may be considered a sufficient guarantee that the interests of France will be well represented, while at the same time his abilities have been sufficiently tested to make the appointment a satisfactory one to the diplomatic circle. After having been appointed Consul at Palermo in 1848, he became First Secretary to the Embassy at Constantinople, when a decree of May, 1850, summoned him to replace M. Bourée as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister at Teheran. M. Benedetti declined to accept the office; and after



M. VINCENT BENEDETTI, MINISTER OF FRANCE AT TURIN.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAVER.)

some months, during which he took no part in the diplomatic service, he was named director of political affairs to the Foreign Minister.

This position was one which could only be efficiently filled by men of high administrative capacity, and had been associated with the success of De Rayneval and d'Hauterive before 1830, and since that time with the names of Desages, Armand Lefebvre, and Thouvenel.

It fell to the lot of M. Benedetti to assume the pen as secretary and editor of the protocols in the famous Congress of Paris. He received the title of Chevalier of the Legion of Honour in June, 1845, officer in 1853, Commander in 1856 and, lastly, Grand Officer of the order in June, 1860.

His diplomatic career in Italy was commenced immediately on the recognition of the Italian kingdom by the French Government.

POLAND AND LITHUANIA.

THE Polish nation is very far from being entirely included in the little kingdom to which the Congress of Vienna has given the name of Poland in annexing it to the Russian empire. The Republic of Poland in the last century was understood to extend from the banks of the Waita to those of the Dnieper and Dwina.

Peoples of the same origin, but long divided by wars which were in the middle ages the general condition of Europe, were reunited by treaties of alliance, the marriages of Sovereigns, and several acts of a similar nature, in the fifteenth century.

The definitive union between Lithuania and Poland was concluded at Lubin in 1569, and the anniversary of that memorable date has been celebrated every year in both countries with national manifestations which have not been without effect on the rest of Europe.

One of the most striking of these ceremonies is that which takes place on the banks of the Niemen, which at Kowno separates Lithuania from Poland. On the left bank are several villages, the principal of which is Godlewo, all belonging to the kingdom. To give some political significance to the fête which celebrated the ancient union, Lithuanians and Poles resolved to organise two processions, both of which should set out for the bridge of boats which crosses the river. At the head of this bridge the processions met upon the dividing stream and there exchanged congratulations.

From the moment of hearing of this custom the authorities at Kowno recently endeavoured to suppress any



SMALL LITHUANIAN LANDHOLDER. FORESTER IN WINTER COSTUME. LITHUANIAN PEASANT. LITHUANIAN WOMAN IN WINTER COSTUME. JEWS IN WINTER DRESS. JEWS IN SUMMER COSTUME. VALET IN LIVERY. YOUNG GIRL IN WORKING DRESS. PEASANT IN WORKING DRESS.

manifestation of the kind, but, their authority not extending to the left bank, the population of Godlewo and the surrounding villages formed a great procession early in the morning. At its head walked young girls dressed in white and crowned with flowers, preceded by the cross and a holy banner, and followed by priests and people singing patriotic hymns.

On approaching the stream the bells clanged out, saluting the arrival of this company, but on their reaching the bridge the attempt at official interference were, as usual, ludicrously manifest. "The bridge is cut away!" shouted a voice at the head of the crowd, and so it was, only a small portion being left on each bank, while the middle was entirely destroyed. At the time of the discovery the bells of Kowno suddenly chimed with new vigour, and there upon the forbidden bank of the river came another procession, who, in spite of their Russian dictators, advanced to the extreme end of the portion of the bridge yet remaining. A scene ensued both grand and affecting alike to actors and spectators. At each extremity of the severed bridges the priests raised crucifix and banners, which, with the white dresses of the girls, were reflected in the intervening river; the people knelt down, the girls exchanged crowns and garlands, or cast them as offerings into the Niemen. During all this the two banks and the adjoining heights were crowded with a large concourse of people, and the tableaux finished with a long line of Cossack lancers who endeavoured to disperse the throng.

As late as October 28 the systematic oppressions of the Russian authorities were being prosecuted. A letter from Warsaw says:—"Any corporal is master of the lives and properties of the inhabitants. Never during the most melancholy period of the reign of the Emperor Nicholas, and even after Warsaw was taken by assault in 1831, were similar excesses seen. The churches, the theatres, the public gardens and schools are closed. The courts of justice are reduced to silence. Arrests are made without distinction of age, sex, or quality. The most revered prelates and ecclesiastics selected to make a report on the violence and profanations committed in the churches have been carried away from their houses during the night and incarcerated. There are several members of the delegation of citizens imprisoned. It was they who, in the opinion of the late Prince Gortschakoff, alone maintained order in Warsaw. Several bankers and some of the most wealthy landed proprietors are in prison. General Kornow, Governor of the department of Plock, who distinguished himself above all Russian Generals for severity, and who lately commanded that three ladies of the best families in the town should be publicly flogged in front of the church of Plock, is now appointed president of the secret commission which is to conduct the prosecution against the prisoners in the citadel. These prisoners are treated with the utmost cruelty. They are locked up in narrow cells without light, and permitted to walk for only five minutes during the day in a small court. The accounts received from the provinces are not better. The Colonel commanding at Kolo sent soldiers after a carriage in which were two ladies and a gentleman dressed in mourning. The soldiers tore the ladies' dresses off their backs and arrested the gentleman. The same officer paraded a landed proprietor, loaded with chains, through the town. An English gentleman, who was severely beaten by the soldiers on the 16th of October, has addressed a complaint to Lord John Russell. He says that, though such acts have been committed in Siberia and in Asia, he never expected to see anything like it in Europe."

Later news from Thom says:—"According to news from Warsaw, the Governor has expressed a hope that a reconciliation may be brought about between the Government and the people. It is expected that M. Dembowski will be appointed Minister for Public Worship; M. Krusenstern Minister of the Interior; and M. Hube Minister of Justice."

THE MAYORALTY.—The annual presentation of the Lord Mayor elect for the approval of her Majesty was gone through at the private residence of the Lord Chancellor on Saturday, when the Royal approbation of the choice of the citizens was signified in the usual form. Lord Westbury added a few complimentary remarks on the mayoralty of Mr. Cubitt in the past year, and congratulated him on the prospect of the further honours he is likely to obtain in the course of his new term of office. The Lord Mayor's show and banquet take place to-day (Saturday); the Premier and several members of the Cabinet have signified their intention to partake of the Lord Mayor's hospitality at the Mansion House on the occasion.

SECESSION ATROCITIES.—Senator Johnson, in a speech recently delivered, spoke of the following circumstance as having occurred in Tennessee:—"Some of these same demons—five of them—fiendish human shape, stopped at the house of a man named Markham, who, seeing them approach, and fearing insult and outrage to himself if he remained, and thinking that they would not be so likely to provoke a quarrel with the family if he were not present, took his rifle from its resting-place and retired unobserved by them into a little thicket hard by the house, in order to be at hand in case they offered any abuse to his family. He had an amiable wife and two daughters, the youngest a girl of about twelve years, and the other just blossoming into womanhood, about sixteen, as beautiful as the morning and as pure as the dewdrop. The secessionists entered and insolently demanded dinner for themselves and food for their horses. The wife told them there was the crib and the fodder, and they would give them their dinner. They took the hay and the corn and scattered it about the ground, and ordered the ladies to hasten their dinner. In due time the meal was prepared and soon greedily devoured. After satiating their appetites at the table they began to make rude remarks to the wife and daughters. One attempted to make love to the young lady, when her young sister seized the tin horn or trumpet, which is kept in almost all rural households to make a summons to dinner or sound an alarm to the neighbours in case of an accident, sprang to the door and blew a blast. At this the hellish demon turned, drew a pistol from his girdle, fired it bullet through her brain, and with one wild shriek she fell in agonising death at the feet of her screaming mother. That blast, the shot, the shriek and scream pierced the ear of the waiting father; he sprang from his retreat, he stood at his door—one glance revealed all, and, taking deliberate aim, he sent his rifle's bullet straight through the villain's heart. The other four, alarmed at the trumpet blast, and knowing that the whole neighbourhood would soon be upon them, mounted their horses and fled. The enraged father, finding them beyond his reach, turning to where the slayer of his little daughter lay, seized his axe and cut his brutal body into quarters, and threw them out as only fit for the dogs to devour. Such, my friends, is secession at home. It is robbery, rapine, and murder."

DISTRESS IN FRANCE.—The American civil war has affected France even more than Great Britain. Not only is cotton as necessary to her as to us, but the United States were her best and most liberal customers. The Parisian trade in articles de luxe is paralysed, while the Lyons silk-mills are closing, with glutted warehouses and no orders for the future. The cities are exerting themselves to keep down the price of bread, but they can do no more, and everything besides bread is slowly rising in price. All this while the taxation of France is heavy, searching, and peculiarly inflexible. Englishmen, penetrated with the notion that they are of all men those most heavily afflicted with the taxgatherer, are apt to forget that France raises a still larger revenue out of property two-thirds less, and does not find it sufficient by an average of twelve millions a year. All the symptoms observable or conjecturable indicate a winter of extreme severity, both in the natural and political world, and France is in no temper for endurance.

MELANCHOLY DEATH OF A MAN WHO SAVED THE QUEEN'S LIFE.—On Saturday night last Mr. Bedford, the Westminster Coroner, held an inquest on view of the body of John Turner, aged fifty-four, an imbecile inmate of the St. George's Workhouse, who about three weeks since accidentally fell down some steps, and sustained injuries which caused his death. James Turner, the son of the deceased, deposed that his father was formerly a licensed victualler and landlord of the Fox at Highgate-hill. He was the man who, in 1837, saved her Majesty's life, under the following circumstances:—"On the 6th of July of that year the four horses of the Queen's carriage, containing her Majesty and the Prince Leiningen, took fright on the top of Highgate-hill, and dashed down the steep. His father, at the risk of his life, got the wheel-horses by the head just in time to enable her Majesty to jump out. On the following day deceased attended Buckingham Palace in answer to a summons from Sir H. Wheatley, who gave him £10, and permitted him to put up the Royal arms to commemorate the circumstance, which he did, at a cost of £20. Witness said he was also informed that her Majesty would always be his friend. He had since made constant applications to the Prince Consort, but he had had no further recognition of his services. This so preyed upon his mind that at last he became an imbecile and an inmate of that work-house. The Coroner was of opinion that her Majesty could not be aware of this; and the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

FIRST INVESTITURE OF THE ORDER OF THE STAR OF INDIA.

On Friday week the Queen formally inaugurated the new and knightly order founded by her Majesty in honour of her empire in the Far East. Surrounded by trusty servants and councillors—by warriors whose names and titles recall some of the most heart-stirring memories of our history—by statesmen long since grown grey in service, and whose fame is only limited by the boundaries of civilisation—Queen Victoria spoke the answer of the British nation to those who counselled us that our only hope of saving ourselves from the worst was to retire from India and leave the greatest dominion ever won by prowess and perseverance to the tender mercies of the first comers.

Only a brief period has elapsed since such advice was gravely proffered by persons so solicitous for our interest that they could not spare a thought for our honour. To those persons England has replied as is her wont. The Queen's supremacy over all the wide realm from Cape Comorin to Lahore is no longer doubtful. It is as unquestioned and unquestionable as in any portion of her Majesty's home dominions. So much for our material and political interests. As to our honour, how we have borne it in the most tremendous of crises may be sufficiently denoted in the words of admiration extorted from England's harshest critics.

The august ceremonial of the 1st of November, 1861, will have a salient significance in history. It comes in grateful sequence to the act which consummated the political and military incorporation of India with the United Kingdom. The Sovereign of the whole empire is the Sovereign of the new order. The first member upon the roll is the Prince Consort—the next, the Heir Apparent to the Imperial throne. The glorious names of Clyde and Pollock, Combermere and Gough, are conspicuous among the ordinary members. That of Harris is hereditarily associated with recollections of our earlier struggles and triumphs, and personally with the successful decision on a policy as sound as it was dignified, at a period when inferior men might have mistaken timidity for conciliation and rashness for intrepidity. It is needless to dilate on the deep national indebtedness of Englishmen to the Lawrences and the Outrams—men great alike in action and in council. It is such men who have held, confirmed, and extended our power in the East during previous struggles, only less terrible than this last and final one, which proved the necessity of consolidating our Indian administration.

Thus, in this inaugurated investiture the names of great captains stand side by side with those of statesmen who, in their respective spheres of duty, have worked ably and successfully—still in maintenance of the principle that the interests of England can never be separated from her honour. But, perhaps, most interesting, from the cheering glimpses which its appearance in this list furnishes of a not distant future, is another name, of syllabic combinations strange to untravelled English ears, melodious to those of our countrymen who know with what courage and firmness many eminent natives whom his Highness the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh so worthily represents kept faith in the darkest hour of our fortunes, continuing loyal and true when truth and loyalty seemed synonymous with the certain loss of all the objects dearest to an Indian magnate. The compliment paid to this Prince in placing him side by side with those whom we must honour is well earned and wisely bestowed.

The following Knights received the Queen's commands to attend at Windsor on Friday:—General Viscount Gough, G.C.B.; Lord Harris; the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh; General Lord Clyde, G.C.B.; the Right Hon. Sir John Lawrence, Bart.; Lieutenant General Sir James Outram, Bart.; Field Marshal Viscount Combermere, G.C.B.; General Sir George Pollock.

It may be matter of surprise that the name of Earl Canning, whose sagacious and successful government of India during a crisis of unparalleled difficulty has earned the lasting esteem and gratitude of the country, does not appear in this list; but the circumstance is accounted for by his Lordship's absence in India, where, in virtue of his high office, he is head of the order. On the noble Earl's return he will of course receive the distinction, to which his services so eminently entitle him. Of the distinguished persons summoned we regret to add that Field Marshal Viscount Combermere and Lieutenant General Sir J. Outram were precluded by indisposition from obeying her Majesty's mandate.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince Consort and the Prince of Wales had been invested by her Majesty previous to her entering the throne-room. Their Royal Highnesses, wearing the collar and mantle of the order, accompanied the Queen. The Prince Consort stood near the chair of state on her Majesty's right hand, and the Prince of Wales on her left. The Mistress of the Robes and the great officers of State occupied their usual stations.

The Knights assembled in St. George's Hall. The officer of the order in attendance was Albert William Woods, Esq. (Lancaster Herald), Registrar of the order, who was habited in a mantle and wore the chain and badge of his office. Soon after the Sovereign had taken her seat in the chair of state the ceremony of investiture commenced. Viscount Gough was conducted to the Queen by the Registrar of the order. His Lordship knelt near her Majesty, and, the Registrar presenting the ribbon with the badge and the star of the order on a velvet cushion, the Sovereign, assisted by his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, invested the noble Viscount with the insignia, passing the ribbon with the badge over his right shoulder to the left side, and placing the star on his Lordship's left breast. The noble Viscount had the honour to kiss her Majesty's hand, and retired from the presence with the usual reverences.

Lord Harris, his Highness the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, General Lord Clyde, the Right Hon. Sir John Lawrence, Bart., and General Sir George Pollock, were severally introduced and invested by her Majesty with the like ceremonies.

The star is formed of rays of gold issuing from a centre, having thereon a star in diamonds, resting upon a light blue circular ribbon tied at the ends, and inscribed with the motto in diamonds. The badge is the same as that attached to the collar of the order, and is suspended from a ribbon of light blue, with a narrow white stripe near each edge.

The Queen, accompanied by the Prince Consort and the Prince of Wales, was conducted from the throne-room by the officers of State after the investiture. Their Royal Highnesses Princess Alice, Helena, Louise, and Beatrice, Prince Arthur and Prince Leopold, and the Princess of Hohenlohe, witnessed the ceremony in the throne-room.

Mrs. FOLJAMBE.—A letter has been published from Mrs. Foljambe, the English lady who gave an asylum to Father Passaglia at Rome. She says:—"It will be difficult for me to remain here, because the Pope himself treats me as a sectarian, and because I am in such bad odour and so much calumniated that I constantly fear to receive fresh insults from the Government. I know that all the Professor's friends have been marked down by the police for arrest. The Pope and Antonelli were furious when they heard that Passaglia had got away, and that nothing important had been found among his papers. It is quite certain that their intention was to keep him under lock and key if they could have got hold of him."

FATHER PASSAGLIA.—Father Passaglia, who is now in Turin, is described by a correspondent of that city as "a tall man, considerably above six feet high, with great breadth of shoulders and flat chest; a spare, erect, imposing figure, with an easy, dignified, refined bearing; the most gentlemanly priest I ever beheld. His forehead is high, not massive, and rather slanting backwards; the brow is sharp and prominent. He has a rich, glossy, head of hair, slightly silvered all over; he may be fifty years old, certainly not more, and he complains that deep study and care have thinned him before his time. He has regular, deeply-chiselled features, with a remarkably wide, round, firm, but by no means heavy under jaw. The eyes are deeply set, light brown, vivid, wakeful. The countenance is gifted with great mobility and sudden powers of expression. He is thin and pale, with deep furrows on the forehead and round the mouth. The habitual look is grave and thoughtful; but the face lightens up with occasional glimpses of great shrewdness and humour."

THE APPREHENDED FAMINE IN IRELAND.

A MEMORIAL has been presented to the Lord Lieutenant, signed by J. Robinson, J.P., Ballinahinch Castle, Clifden, in which that gentleman, speaking on behalf of the memorialists, asserts that a searching inquiry into the condition of the potato crop in his district has resulted in the discovery that two-thirds of it are totally lost, and the remainder so bad as to be almost unfit for food. The memorialists then say:—"A scarcity of fuel also already exists—in fact, amounting to a total loss—almost as great an evil to the poor as the scarcity of food itself. The poor rates in the Clifden electoral division of this union are 4s. 7d. in the pound—a proof of the melancholy distress to which it is already reduced; and we feel convinced that the present rate will be entirely inadequate to meet the impending wide-spread destitution. These facts leave no doubt that famine, with all its concomitant horrors, is imminent. Your memorialists, therefore, feel it a duty they owe to the poor, to themselves, and to society generally, that these facts be submitted to the Executive, with a view that your Excellency will be graciously pleased to take such steps as to your Excellency may seem meet for averting the impending calamity and saving the lives of the poor." To this memorial Sir Robert Peel has replied that the subject to which it refers is receiving the best attention of the Government. The hon. Baronet is said to have made a tour into the west in order to see and judge for himself of the state of things there.

A meeting of the clergy of the deanery of Castlebar was held on Saturday last, at which the following resolution, affirming the failure of the crops and the reality of the consequent distress, was adopted:—"We have carefully investigated the grounds of the general alarm, and we feel our bounden duty to the people, as well as to the country, to state that scarcely one-fourth of the potato crop of this year is safe from the ravages of the blight, and that even this small remnant is so inferior in quality as to be unfit for human food. The salvation of the lives of the people demands that the most prompt and comprehensive measures be adopted by the Government to avert the horrors of famine with which we are threatened." We trust, as we have before said, that a thorough and prompt investigation into the state of affairs will be made, and relief administered, if necessary, in such a way as to meet the wants of the people without degrading and pauperising their spirit, or teaching them to look to governmental or extraneous aid in future difficulties; and that, moreover, no party or religious spirit will be allowed to influence the measures which may be taken in this unhappy emergency.

In reference to this subject, and the continued dependence placed by the Irish peasantry on the potato crop, an Irish contemporary has the following remarks:—"It is most unaccountable that in these times of remunerative prices for all descriptions of farm produce there should have been only about 400,000 acres of wheat in Ireland in the past season. Prices since 1853 have been nearly all on the side of the growers, and, on the average, were above those ruling the market for the eight years previous to the admission of foreign corn. In 1860 there was a total of 1,172,000 acres in potatoes, and, as we have seen, only about one-third of that area was afterwards sown in wheat. This year there have been 1,133,211 acres of land under potatoes in Ireland. For the last thirty years there have been unmistakable indications, season after season, that the favourite food of the Irish was losing its previous vitality. There was the prevalence of 'curl' one year, and the no less serious loss by what is called 'missed' seed in another. In the one case the leaf of the plant became shrivelled as it grew towards maturity, and the produce was not worth the trouble of raising; in the other instance the seed decayed in the ground, and whole acres had to be replanted. The disease that so terribly manifested itself in 1845 and 1846 was, consequently, the crisis of a distemper that had been working its way in different tribes of the potato for a quarter of a century. The crop of this year has been extensively infected by the old disease, but, now that more accurate data exist for the formation of a correct estimate, it does not appear that the loss will, in any degree, reach the amount which the heralds of famine would have had the public to believe. Immense quantities of the gross produce are totally unfit for human food; a large proportion of the balance will, however, be useful in cattle-feeding, and it is to be hoped that the portion unfit for any purpose will not exceed a moiety of the entire produce of the potato lands. Prices are very high for the season. It is, therefore, evident that the consumer will more than share the loss with the grower. In olden times, and long before the destructive blight had set in on the national esculent, 1s. per cwt. was often the market rate for excellent potatoes. Occasionally higher prices ruled, but more frequently still lower ones. In 1833, for instance, choice varieties, which had been carted seven or eight miles from the country, were sold in our market at the nominal rate of 8d. the cwt., or 1d. for each stone of 11lb. The current rates this day will average 4s. the cwt. or about six times the price paid twenty-eight years ago."

THE QUEEN'S MESSENGERS.—The Queen's foreign-service messengers are fifteen in number. The first three for service are obliged to be in attendance at the Foreign Office. Formerly there was no distinction between them and the home-service messengers; they were all under the Lord Chamberlain, and their connection with his office is said to be the origin of the silver greyhound pendant from their badge. At a later period they were transferred to the Secretaries of State, and took journeys abroad indifferently in their turn, but in 1824 there was a separation into home and foreign service. Lord Malmesbury reduced the number of foreign-service messengers from eighteen to fifteen, and these are found quite sufficient, owing to the greater speed with which journeys are now performed, and the introduction of the electric telegraph rendering many journeys unnecessary. Lord Malmesbury also reduced the number of journeys very considerably, effecting a saving of about £11,000 a year. The Queen's messengers formerly had very small salaries, only £60 a year, but made large profits by mileage and other allowances when employed. The situation was worth £800 or £900 a year. Colonel Towneley has stated that his profits were nearly £1100 in one year. Lord Malmesbury altered the remuneration to a salary of £225, and the travelling expenses. This was considered by the messengers to be a great reduction of their income, and the arrangement was open to the objection that it gave them an inducement to shirk work which was expensive to them. Very recently Earl Russell has made a new plan, giving them salaries of £400 a year and £1 a day for their personal expenses while employed abroad, besides their travelling expenses. There is a pension on superannuation. Their social position has been very much improved of late years, and the life is one that would be very agreeable to many persons. To gentlemen who have left the army the appointment is very acceptable. Queen's messengers are treated with great kindness and consideration abroad; they are usually invited to the Minister's table. They are examined on appointment by the Civil Service Commissioners. The qualifications required are an age between twenty-five and thirty-five, some knowledge of French, German, or Italian, and ability to ride on horseback. The home-service messengers occupy a very inferior position.

VENICE.—Venice appears likely to become the centre of reaction this winter. The Count de Chambord, the Duchess de Berry, the ex-Dukes of Tuscany, Modena, and Parma, and the mother of Frances II., have decided on taking up their abode in that city. The ex-King and Queen of Naples, with their little circle of malcontents, are also expected.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S WIFE.—A letter from Washington makes the following comments upon a power in the land which is not provided for in the American Constitution:—"We have, for the first time in the history of Presidents, a President's wife who seems to be ambitious of having a finger in the Government pie. Her friends compare Mrs. Lincoln to Queen Elizabeth in her statesmanlike tastes and capabilities. She is by no means a simple, domestic woman, but was evidently intended by nature to mix somewhat in politics. That she does so is undeniable. She has been thus made and unmade the political fortunes of men. She is said to be much in conversation with Cabinet members, and has before now held correspondence with them on political topics. Some go so far as to suggest that the President is indebted to her for some of his ideas and projects. She is a very active woman; nothing escapes her eye. She manages the affairs of the White House (I do not mean State affairs) with ability, and will see to it that the 'old man' does not return to Springfield penniless. In foreign countries her turn for politics would not subject her to adverse criticism, but the American people are so unused to these things that it is not easy for them to like it. Mrs. Douglas was a good deal of a politician, though she never injured her husband's position, but rather improved it by her social alliances. Miss Lane never alluded to politics, and Mrs. Pierce knew nothing about them. She was probably the most simple-hearted woman that ever presided at the President's table. The word 'simple' is not used in a depreciative sense. She was a pure-minded, unselfish, Christian woman, and knew nothing at all of the world."

GOOD ADVICE.—A reckless young man gambled away all his money but a napoleon at Baden-Baden. Holding the remaining coin in his finger, he said to the croupier, "Here is the last piece of gold of which I am now the owner. Where, my friend, would you advise me to put it?" "Monsieur," replied the croupier, "as you ask my opinion, and appeal to me as a friend, and tell me that it is your last napoleon, my advice to you is to put it—in your pocket."

THE PRINCE CONSORT.—The President of the Society of Arts, has been pleased to offer annually to the candidate who, obtaining a certificate of the first class in the current year, shall have obtained in that year, and the three years immediately preceding it, the greatest number of such certificates, a prize of twenty-five guineas. This prize cannot be taken more than once by the same candidate. It will be accompanied by a certificate from the Society of Arts setting forth the special character of the prize, and the various certificates for which it was granted. The prize will be called "The Prince Consort's Prize," and will be awarded in 1862. The general prizes consist of two amounts—the first £5 and the second £3.

Literature.

Sketch Pictures: with Some Sketches in the Flemish Manner. By GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA. London: Tinsley Brothers.

A man's first productions are generally, in some way or other, his best. Who does not remember Swift's exclamation on reading "The Tale of a Tub" in after-years? There is either a freshness, or a delicacy of touch, or an originality about the first sketches from an author's pen that is inimitable by all his maturer skill, and makes him exclaim with a sigh, "What a genius I had when I wrote this!"

Mr. Sala is now at the height of popularity. Never had he (or any other man, we may say) a greater command of language, more aptness of illustration, more power in concentrating a more varied knowledge, than he has now; but, for all this, he does not write, and probably never will write again, with the same care and the same finished result as are shown in these and other early sketches republished from *Household Words*.

It is a great deal to say for Mr. Sala that these stories and sketches deserve the name he has given them, and that he has not added another to the list of captivating and meretricious titles that disfigure the titlepages of most new books nowadays; and this we can say, and more; for, while his touch is as fine, his handling as delicate, and his effects as perfect, his subjects are generally far more respectable than those of even the best Dutch artists.

While, however, we signify our appreciation of the title of the book, we cannot overlook that a great portion of the contents is unrecognised therein. We allude to the short essays, such as "Old Ladies," "A New Railway Line," and "Little Children," which come much more under the ancient interpretation of the word "essay" than the lengthy treatises now called by that name. These essays, which are a little too rambling and discursive, are what we believe have contributed most to the author's fame. They are simply the author's unarranged thoughts, running fast from his mind through the channel of his pen, full of odd memories of an odd life, and instinct with geniality and humour. Their great fault is their egotism. Pleasant as they are, the reader is apt to get tired if held by the lution, as it were, and talked to, standing for too long a time. The habit of a magazine article prevents the author in the cases before us from thus becoming tedious; but if we may be allowed to refer to other volumes published by Mr. Sala, where the essays are connected together and form a continuous and somewhat egotistical ramble through some hundreds of pages, we would state it as our opinion that this is the reason why such works have had more success when published in periodical instalments.

But it is not to these papers that we attach the highest meed of praise, but to those in which the author has employed his experience and skill on subjects in which he has no personal interest. We allude to the short stories—the real "Dutch Pictures" of the volume. "The Conversion of Captain Quag" is one of these, and is as well told a story as we ever remember to have read, and written in a most excellent vein of humour. "The Shadow of a Dutch Painter" and "Demetrius the Diver" are also gems in their way, and show an accumulation of out-of-the-way reading. "Doctor Pantologos" is another of these clever tales, called up by the sight of a dog-eared book at a stall, and shows Mr. Sala's fancy is equal to his skill. In such stories the talent of the author shines more conspicuously, because the author himself appears less, and gives promise of attaining to higher things than have as yet been attempted by its possessor.

The contents of this volume are varied to the utmost. No article in it calls to mind its predecessor, or suggests, except by the volubility of its language, that it was written by the same hand; for Mr. Sala's English is voluble and not terse, but at the same time it gains in power and expression what it wants in conciseness. To say that he is to a great extent an imitator, is merely to observe that he has read more than he has written. Shakespeare borrowed the subjects of all, or nearly all, his plays; the genius of Milton was illuminated by foreign lights; and, to come to later times, is not "The Caxtons" but the antitype of "Tristram Shandy," and is not Sterne branded as a shameless plagiarist? To say that man cannot create but can only copy and improve, would be hailed as a truism; but to say that an author imitates, is held as a grievous accusation. The true state of the case is that Mr. Sala's style is as original and as inimitable as it is possible to be, seeing that he has explored the richest mines of English literature, and that they still remain to be explored, with his additions to boot, by future writers. Another common charge against this author is the superficiality of his knowledge; but, at least, it might be added that its superficiality seems unlimited.

Mr. Sala is not an author from whom it is easy to extract a passage. There are many striking pages in his writings, but few striking sentences. His thoughts seem to throng too quickly to give him time (to use a paradox) to think. The moment he fixes on a subject it appears as though memories from all corners of the world, from every day of his life, and from all sorts of quaint repositories of information, flock so quick, and intertwine and mix themselves so closely with the theme, that the result is a kind of mellifluous mangle-mangle, pleasant and wonderful, but intricate and indivisible—like the voice of a unanimous and intelligible Babel.

There is one of the papers that we wish had been excluded from the collection. It is entitled "Twenty Miles." Its interest is not sufficient to excuse its vulgarity. We all know that Dutch painters were wont to paint the grossest subjects in the most finished manner, so that the spectator lost his disgust in his appreciation; but we have yet to learn that they introduced their own portraits into such pictures, and that under the shapeless hats of drunken boors are to be discovered the features of a Teniers or a Jan Steen.

We are looking forward with some interest to the approaching publication of two new novels by Mr. Sala. We shall in these have the opportunity of judging his powers when employed on a larger field and submitted to a severer test. While we doubt not that there will be great talent shown in everything that comes from his pen, we are afraid that Mr. Sala writes far too much to be able to give the time requisite to the conscientious working out of a novel. This writing too much is the great error of most of the great writers of the present day. It is not the way to a lasting fame to cover as many sheets of "copy" as possible per diem. As the body cannot keep up its full strength without constant supplies of food, so an author's mind requires frequent replenishment by study to prevent his writings from degenerating. From disregard of this first law of nature arises, perhaps, the complaint that all our best writers are writing themselves out. We hope the cry will not attach itself by and by to the talented author of "Dutch Pictures."

The Home at Rosefield. By EDWARD COPPING. Hurst and Blackett.

We can conceive it likely that if Mr. Copping could get hold of something to write about, he would produce a very readable novel. But "The Home at Rosefield" is a manufacture. There is no plot, and as the work fills three volumes, and Mr. Copping is neither a thinker nor a very keen observer, the result may be imagined. Yet there is a certain pleasantness about this "novel," and we actually paid it the compliment of reading it. The secret is that Mr. Copping possesses the storytelling knack, if he only had a story to tell. Let our readers look at this imaginary sentence—"Charlotte and I stood at the top of the stairs in our night dresses, listening anxiously for a repetition of the shriek we had heard." That is not interesting, and a series of even good incidents told in that manner would not make a readable novel. The art of the storyteller lies in expanding such a sentence into details which shall bring the scene before the eye of the reader. That art, we repeat, Mr. Copping possesses, and he does, in fact, describe with considerable power a scene like the one hinted at in our imaginary sentence. All the

leading features in the story of the book may be recalled in a few words. A young man is crossed in love with a vain girl, challenges his rival to a boat-race, and is drowned in the contest. The vain girl reforms, and the young man's sister feels his death so acutely that she contracts a disease of the heart, which carries her off suddenly on the eve of her wedding-day, at the end of the third volume. This, which is all, is told *secundum artem*; there is the proper allowance of funny business interspersed, and so the three volumes are spun out. Mr. Copping has no reflection and no conception of character; but on level ground he is a writer who may be read with a certain amount of pleasure, and he undoubtedly knows how to "work up" his material.

Filippo Malincontri: or, Student Life in Venetia. An Autobiography. Edited by GIROLAMO VOLPE. Translated from the unpublished Italian MS. by C. B. CAYLEY, B.A., Translator of Dante's "Divine Comedy," Author of "Psyche's Interludes," &c. 2 vols. Manwaring.

Whether this "autobiography" is genuine or not, in the sense of being made up of real memoirs of a real person, there can be no doubt that it is genuine in another sense: it is thoroughly Italian in every line, Italian in its tediousness, in its sentiment, in its humour, in its philosophy, or rather philosophising. As a picture of student life in Venetia, too, we think it has evident signs of being trustworthy, and certainly there is no overdraw. The writer is particularly happy in illustrating the manner in which a despotic Government can make stupidity, even accompanied with innocence, do the work of cruelty as well as malignity itself could do it. There is a thin thread of love story running through the whole which commands, because it is "the old, old story," a certain amount of interest. But the most interesting parts of the book are the quite juvenile episodes. There is an account of ferrione-travelling which describes what is quite new to us, and we think our readers will find amusing. Five boys are going to travel eight miles from Voltano with a celerity scarcely inferior to that of the railway, and impelled only by the cosmical force of gravitation.

FERRIONE-TRAVELLING.

This is effected simply with a wooden implement, of about the size of the bottom of a chair, composed of two boards obliquely disposed towards one another, and fastened together at one extremity of each by strong nails, so as to form a concave seat; these two boards are closed up at the sides by two others, which rest upon a planed bar, curved upwards and inwards, and morticed to an iron keel, somewhat sharp-edged, and projecting about half an inch. This machine never goes on independent of the will of the person seated in it, who guides it either with his heels or by means of a bough of a tree, still covered with leaves, which he holds in his hands, and pushes, now to one side, now to the other, to guide the vehicle, which, from the iron keels that allow it to move so rapidly, is called a "ferrione."

On such a machine one can go with an extreme rapidity, but still slacken one's course at pleasure, by leaning back with all one's weight, which makes the ferrione rear like a horse on its hinder end, and so cut into the ice until it has expended its superfluous momentum, as when a skater rests upon his heel to check himself. In this way the movement is never so rapid, nor the declivity so steep, that it can render the ferrione ungovernable, if the person seated on it has enough promptness and courage not to lose his self-command.

We were soon out of the valley and standing at the commencement of the slope. We put down our ferriones, and the slide commenced. Each one slackens or accelerates his course, so that we keep near one another. At first we go at a moderate rate; then we quicken it by little and little, and at last give the reins, as it were, to our ferriones, which descend with an inconceivable rapidity. Before us pass houses, villages, mountains; we are carried along as by a torrent, and inebriated with excitement; but our attention to obviate accidents does not slacken; if our speed is at times such as to take away our breath, our view, our command of our thoughts, yet, nevertheless, it is readily checked, in the manner I have described, by leaning back on the end of the car, and making it cut into the ice, leaving a long furrow after us. If we meet men they get out of our way, and we slip out of theirs by turning the ferrione with the bough, just as easily as a horse is managed by his bridle.

Mr. Cayley is a careful and excellent translator, but we would rather meet him in original composition; and "Filippo Malincontri" is a book that can appeal strongly only to a limited public. It is dedicated to Garibaldi, who accepts the inscription.

Life Amongst the Indians. A Book for Youth. By GEORGE CATLIN. Author of "Notes of Travel amongst the North American Indians." S. Low, Son, and Co.

Mr. Catlin's new book for youth will probably do much to make youth grow up with similar aspirations to those indulged in by youth some quarter of a century since. Whilst the late Mr. Fenimore Cooper was allowing Deerslayers, Mohicans, and Pathfinders to "literally drip from his fingers" (as Mrs. Gore described her facility for novel-writing), the younger readers of the period were infected with a longing spirit for taking scalps and peltries—for talking an incomprehensible language, which was therefore poetical—for tracking dangerous quadrupeds—living in woods, and lighting fires by means of two dry sticks. Wigwags were easily erected out of turn up bedsteads; and the general disposition of the furniture would probably undergo a change into something new or strange long before the elder branches of the family had emerged from their third sleep. Captain Marryat's "Monsieur Violet" and Washington Irving's "Astoria" also had their fair share in revolutionising the young idea; but the young idea has now sprung into a serious, actual, workaday scene of life, with a family at its heels; and visions of wild independence have faded away, together with first love, and that certainty of becoming Lord Chancellor with which every young barrister begins. Mr. Catlin's book will put the old spirit into the younger people. Who does not know (through the medium of autumnal provincial journals) the celebrated remark made by Voltaire after reading Rousseau's "Eulogy on the Savage State"—"that it really almost tempted a man to walk on all fours!" There is a fascination in these scenes of Indian life—the people are described as being so good, so honourable and truthful, so innocent, brave, and expert. Every reader must love them and their unsophisticated ways of life; but we fancy that but very few reckless travellers of the Catlin and Burton kind would care for a prolonged residence amongst these semi-civilised savages. We remember Mr. Allingham's graceful lines:—

This element beside my feet
Allures: a tepid wine of gold.
One touch, one taste, dispels the cheat—
'Tis salt, and bitter cold.

And so, we fancy, would it be with our dear friends (at a distance) Leatherstocking, Chingachgook, and Uncas, with Hiawatha, and the rest. But there are no pleasant companions on paper; and, if Mr. Catlin's varied and vivid stories be a shade less romantic than those of Cooper, it must be remembered that in no case does he go to any authority, or invent a colouring to any tale, but relies upon his own experience for accounts of strange people whom he believes to be possessed of almost every virtue, and to be free from almost every vice. To mention his book is to praise and recommend it. It will certainly be accounted a treasure in many youthful libraries.

The Leighs; or, the Discipline of Daily Life. By Miss PALMER. With Illustrations by Walter Ray Woods. James Hogg and Sons.

In this little book for young people, and in a recent fiction called "A Family History," may be found the extremes that meet. The "History" described a governess who would never have allowed herself to be well-treated, even if she had had the chance; whilst in "The Leighs" Miss Barclay, the governess, is looked upon as a finely-developed earthly angel, who almost makes Paradise a matter of supererogation. She makes all the pupils love her, and the parents and guardians do so of their own free will. But it is an educational book; and in the culture of good feeling and fine sympathies, we are willing to make any allowance for the daring of an

active imagination. What story is told in Miss Palmer's carefully-written volume shall not be intruded on here. It is all about girls, by a girl herself, and will interest girls—ay, and boys too, when they have finished breaking their windows and have carried out the awful sentence of the law on their sisters' dolls. Youth may be pleased with Mr. Wood's illustrations; but, to judge from the perpetually-recurring type of nose, it would seem as if the Hebrews were really gathered together in "The Leighs."

Letters on Self-Education, with Hints on Style, and Dialogues on Political Economy. By THOMAS DE QUINCEY. Hogg.

These collected papers of Mr. De Quincey do not call for any more reviewing than they have already received. The volume is a very nice one, and is of course worth having; but we cannot imagine that its contents will be of any particular value to competitors in Civil Service examinations, for whose behoof we have, we think, seen it advertised. The Templar's Dialogues may be excepted from this remark; but, after all, De Quincey is so discursive, so undecided, or rather so positively dissipated, shatter-brained, and unsteady a writer, that to go to him for guidance is out of the question. An idea no sooner enters his brain than it is like a stick in water, and nobody knows where to have it. He is, in our opinion, quite unreliable both in his facts and his opinions, and chiefly useful to readers who take up books for purposes of intellectual stimulation and suggestion.

Slavery and Secession in America—Historical and Economical. By THOMAS ELLISON, F.S.S., M.A., Author of a "Handbook of the Cotton Trade," with Map and Appendices. Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

We have to introduce to our readers a very useful compendium of facts, figures, and documents relating to the "domestic institution" of America, considered under different aspects. With a compendium furnished by some pro slavery writer, as well as this book of Mr. Ellison's—which is all the other way—the ordinary reader might consider himself well informed upon the questions between the North and South. But it would never do to take Mr. Ellison alone for a guide, though his book is compiled with great care and intelligence.

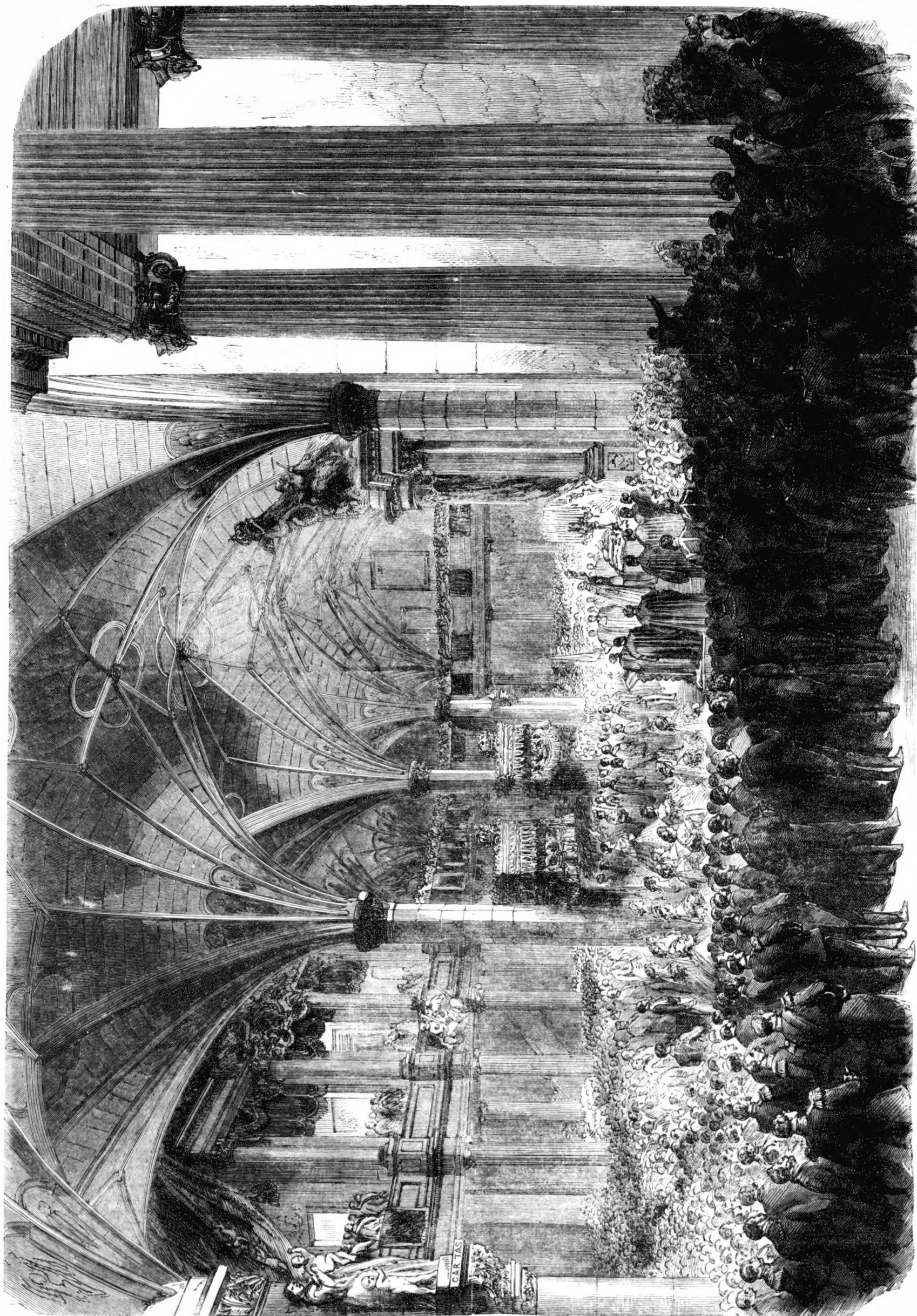
MILITARY ATTACHES.—A practice is springing up of appointing, under the name of "military attaches" to embassies, officers of high rank, who are not to share in the ordinary work of the mission, but to attend to what is going on abroad in military and naval affairs, and report to the Ambassador, and through him to the home Government. Such an officer is attached to our embassy at Paris, and another to the mission at Berlin, and at Paris there is also a naval attaché. Colonel Calogian, who was military commissioner in Piedmont, made a report to Earl Russell last year in favour of a more complete foreign military correspondence system for supplying correct information to the British Government; and he suggested that it was worth consideration whether the cost of military information as at present collected, by means of the secret-service fund, does not alone exceed the expense that would be incurred by the maintenance of military attaches at all the necessary points of Europe, setting such an establishment at the rate of from £2000 to £10,000 a year. France, Russia, Austria, Prussia, and Sardinia are all taking the course thus indicated. Earl Russell, however, in his evidence before the Commons' Committee on the Diplomatic Service, in June, said that he doubted whether it was desirable for this country to increase these appointments, so as to make them more a part of a regular system, because "we do not form part of the military system of the Continent." Mr. Hammond, the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, was asked a question respecting the precedence of these officers, and he remarked that, considering their high professional position, it would be bad taste in an attaché to raise any question of precedence with them; but no rule had been laid down. On a subsequent day, however, Earl Russell stated that he had now made a regulation that a military attaché above the rank to Colonel should rank next to the Minister.

THE PASSAGE OF THE PLANET MERCURY over the disc of the sun on Tuesday will be visible at Paris at 9.23 in the morning. M. Le Verrier, the eminent French astronomer of the Imperial Observatory, has laid before the Academy of Sciences some notes to assist observers, which will be found in the *Comptes Rendus*. As the black spot formed by the projection of the planet on the disc of the sun approaches more and more to the western edge, the luminous part between it and the edge of the sun will be reduced to a very fine thread of light, and then suddenly this thread will break. It is, says M. Le Verrier, the precise time of this phenomenon which serves to determine the position of the planet with very great exactness. It will be also important to notice the thickness of the thread of light at the moment of its breaking. Observers must use a powerful glass and a good chronometer. The transit will be partially visible at Greenwich.

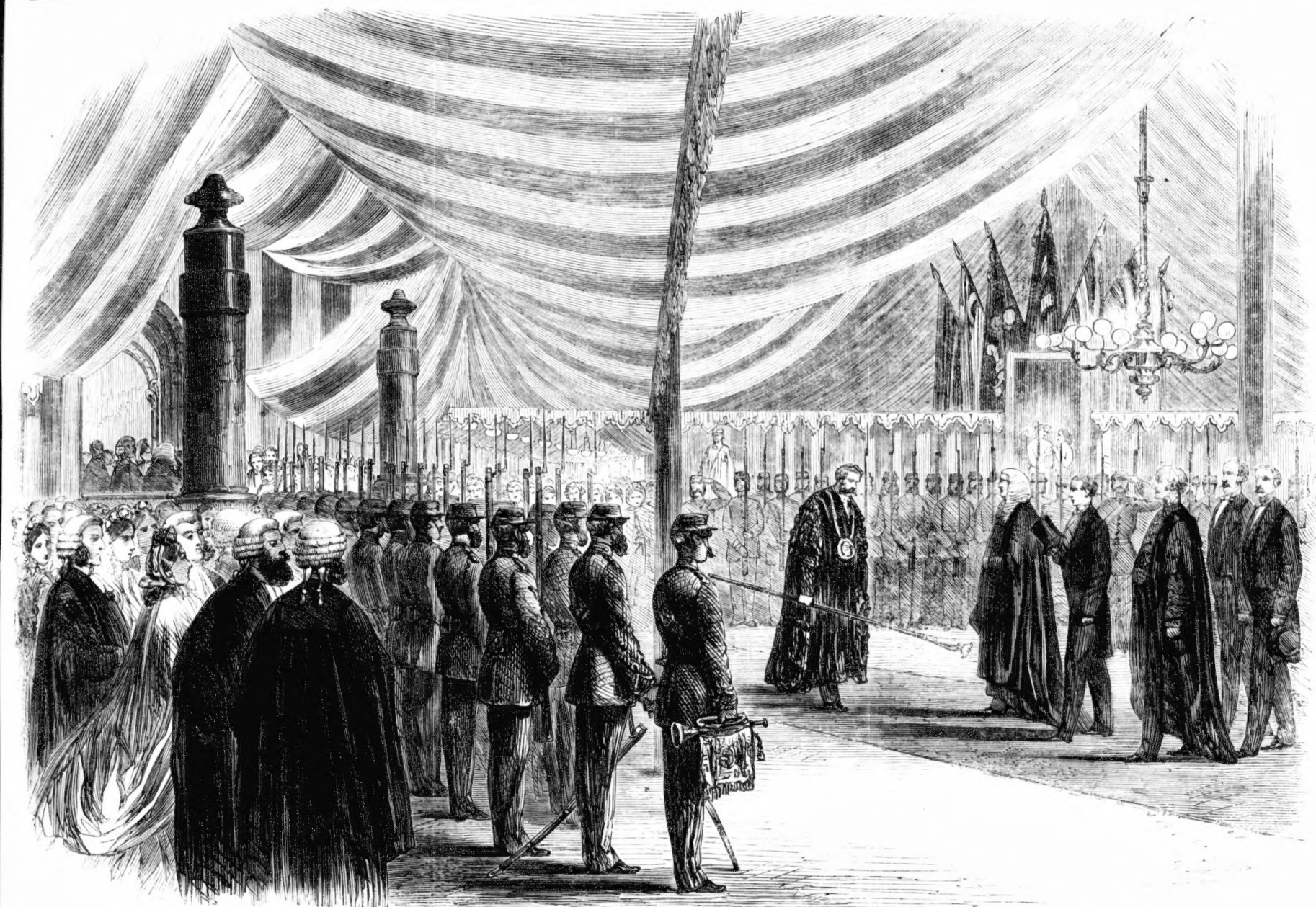
ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—The opening meeting for the session of this body was held on Monday evening in Conduit-trait, Hanover-square, when the president, Mr. Tite, M.P., delivered an address. Referring to the approaching exhibition, he reminded the members that the design proposed for the Exhibition building of 1851 was set aside, and a design happily suggested by Sir Joseph Paxton was adopted in its stead, the superintendence of the working details being intrusted to a civil engineer. On the present occasion, also, the claims of British architects to co-operate in the design of a building which ought essentially to represent the state of the art among them at the present day had been ignored. He would not criticise the designs of either of the Exhibition buildings, notwithstanding the numerous lessons of "what to avoid" which they both furnished. But, in the name of the Institute, he protested against the official exclusion of architects from the councils by those who assumed to represent the taste of the nation in the various branches of art. He then alluded to the improvements of Paris, contrasting them with the slowly-progressing improvements in London. No doubt there was something fairly like in the rapidity and the brilliancy of the changes brought about, but these improvements had been effected upon principles of political economy and by an abuse of public credit which would never be tolerated in England. In domestic matters the most important lesson to be derived from the events of the last twelve months was that connected with the terrible fires in our riverside warehouses. The only efficient protection against the spread of large warehouse fires seemed to him to consist, first, in limiting the size of the warehouses themselves; and, secondly, in isolating them effectually if the goods they were to hold should be susceptible of easy combustion.

RECOVERY OF THE JOURNAL OF ADOLPHE SCHLAGINTWEIT.—Sir Roderick Murchison writes to the *Times*, communicating the interesting intelligence that the journal of Adolphe Schlagintweit, the Himalayan explorer, has been recovered:—"Lord William Hay, now employed as Civil Commissioner in Cashmere, who has been indefatigable in his endeavours to throw light upon the fate of Adolphe Schlagintweit, has at length succeeded in possessing himself of the journal of that most adventurous explorer. It will be in the recollection of many of your readers that, quitting his brothers Hermann and Robert, who traversed the Karakorum and Kuen-lun chains to Eitchi, near Yarkand, Adolphe, pursuing his travels on a more western meridian, succeeded in passing considerably further northward than his brothers, when he was beheaded by a robber chief in front of Kashgar, and on his road to Kokand. Lord William Hay, in a letter dated the 8th of September, thus writes to his brother, Lord Gifford, who has authorised me to make the facts known to the public:—'You will be glad to hear, and please communicate the intelligence to friends and those who are interested, that I have succeeded in recovering, and have now in my possession, Adolphe Schlagintweit's journal, containing 133 pages of closely-written notes, recompanied by what is confidently asserted to be the poor fellow's skull. The last entry in the journal is dated the 11th of August, 1856, a few days before he was beheaded.' The surviving brothers will thus be enabled to enrich their work, now in course of publication, by descriptions of a region never visited in modern times by any other scientific traveller."

A FIREPROOF DRESS.—Yesterday week the Emperor and Empress of the French witnessed in the park of Compigne a trial by a M. Buvert of a newly-invented fireproof dress. A cottage was erected in the park for the purpose of the experiment. The framework of the building was iron, and the roof and walls were made of faggots and other combustible materials. Their Majesties were attended by a numerous Court party. The fire brigade attached to the chateau of Compigne were in readiness in case of their services being required. M. Buvert's dress is described to be both waterproof and fireproof, and is copiously stuffed with sponges sewn together. He wears a helmet like that of a diver, with an apparatus for supplying fresh air, and glasses to see through. At a signal from the Emperor he set fire to the temporary cottage, and when the flames had well got ahead he went into the midst of them several times with perfect impunity. The Emperor, greatly excited by the scene, cried out repeatedly, "Enough! oh, it's quite enough!" The experiment was considered to be entirely successful, and the Emperor complimented M. Buvert upon his invention.



THE KING OF PRUSSIA CROWNING HIMSELF IN THE CHAPEL OF THE TEUTONIC ORDER AT K. WIGSBURG. (FROM A SKETCH BY M. LALLEMAND.)



RECEPTION OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES BY THE AUTHORITIES OF THE TEMPLE.



THE GARDEN OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE ON THE EVENING OF THE PRINCE OF WALES'S VISIT.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1861.

RESPECTABLE COSTUME.

THERE has been lately a great outcry against Englishmen abroad and at home on the part of certain newspaper-writers who have taken upon themselves to attack the rights of the Briton to dress as he pleases. Firstly, there was one "G. U." who wrote lamentingly to the *Times* because some of his countrymen did not choose to promenade on the Boulevards, in the dog-days, in frock-coats, chimney-pot hats, and black kid gloves, in which it apparently suited "G. U." to display himself, with about as much reason and comfort as that with which a cricketer might exhibit himself on Kennington-oval in an evening dress suit. The recalcitrant tourists actually walked about in Paris in felt hats and tourists' tweed, in which, when the French caricaturists wished to depict an Englishman, they drew them accordingly, just as an English sketcher would draw a Highlandman in a kilt, or an Irishman in a frieze coat. The ideas of "G. U." have been advocated, strange to say, in leading articles in at least two journals. And hereupon our contemporary the *Builder* is publishing a series of correspondence in defence of what may be termed rationalism in costume, in opposition to conventionalism.

The ordinary phrase for this same conventionalism is "respectability." It is respectable to keep one's hands stewing inside a pair of dyed kid gloves. It would not be considered orthodox to attend a church in silk gloves, though these might cost twice as much, and be twice as convenient in every way, as the unwholesome, dye-sodden pair which, perhaps, the undertaker gave the wearer at a funeral. It is "respectable" to dress in black broadcloth, although this is known to be the most expensive, unhealthy, and inconvenient wear assumable by civilised man. And this respectability is a great Mumbo Jumbo to Englishmen. See the mechanic on a weekday in his cap and his suit of moleskin, canvas, or corduroy: his dress expresses his station, and is easy and fitting. See the same man on Sunday, and he is an object at which you can scarcely forbear a smile. His hard, high shirt-collars saw his ears, his arms move stiffly in his absurd black tunic or still more absurd dress-cut coat with two enormous projections at right angles from his chest. His head is girt by his shiny hat (a misery in itself), and his breast adorned with his dear but ludicrous silk-flowered waistcoat. This is his idea of being "respectable." Take the other extremity of the social scale, and inspect the costume and gait of the Regent-street "swell." He wears his whiskers according to the approved modern "wing" fashion, a style never beheld in any preceding age; his watchguard supports a bundle of puerile gilded rubbish; his neck is impracticable; and his arms are extended after the manner of the framework of a kite, while he totters mincingly along, crippled by his boots. His long-waisted overcoat has two buttons absurdly placed over the small of his back, and why he wears these he has not the remotest idea. The fact is that these were anciently used to support the sword-belt; and, though swords are no longer worn, the buttons are retained simply because tailors are tyrants and conventionalists. We once heard a tailor commanded to make a coat without these decorations. He actually started at the proposition. "Why, the coat'll look ridiculous, Sir!" "Never mind," said the customer; "they catch in the chairs, and tear my coats to pieces. I'll have no more of them." "Ah, Sir!" replied the tailor, "that puts me in mind of Mr. G——. He said to me that his coats always tore in his chair-backs: the buttons caught, for his chairs were splendidly carved." "Well, then, I suppose he left off the buttons?" "Oh dear no, Sir; he had canvas covers made to the chairs!"

The reason for the modern adoption of black as expressive of respectability is a curious matter of history, not heretofore recorded, we believe. It dates from the death of the Queen of that unpopular Monarch, George IV. On this event there was a general mourning, of course not ordered by the Court. It was a popular demonstration, less in sorrow for the departed, perhaps, than in hostility to the Sovereign. The sable wear was continued, until at length it became permanent in society. Previously to this, the well-known caricatures of Rowlandson and Bunbury, wherein our grandfathers are depicted in coats of every lively hue, represented truly enough the aspect of English social meetings. But the dismal custom which long gave our festivities, ungraced by the fair sex, the appearance of funeral parties, is now gradually decaying. Several Peers have already set the fashion of a return to less lugubrious colours, and a Vice-Chancellor clad in a blue dress coat lately presided at a legal banquet without the slightest detriment to the viands or the happiness of the meeting.

Our contemporary the *London Review* puts the case on behalf of the "G. U." party as absurdly as any of his opponents could wish. "Why," asks he, "cannot a Londoner and his family go so far as Ryde or Brighton without putting on a costume which the permanent resident of either of these places,

if a gentleman or a lady, would never think of adopting, but which those who escape from business and the over-crowded streets of the metropolis think it incumbent upon them to assume?" The question might easily be reversed. Since a Londoner finds a certain easy style of dress the most suitable and convenient, and eagerly adopts it when freed from conventional restraint, why should he not adopt it when at home? The Dutch burgomasters of the days of Rembrandt could dress themselves in a costume at once the most comfortable and durable, and withal the most manly and picturesque known in modern times. Surely none can accuse them of not looking "respectable," or of sacrificing decorum to their ease in dress. And it is just this point to which these much-reviled innovations in modern costume are tending. We have already the "knickerbocker," which our rifle corps, our sportsmen, and our tourists, are rapidly popularising. That hideous invention of the maddest of batters, the modern "tile," is rapidly yielding its domination and giving way to something like a return to the broad, useful hat of our forefathers.

The fact is, nevertheless, that there is still too much fear of Mrs. Grundy. We waste our money, cramp our limbs, and render such every-day annoyances as mud, heat, and rain, intolerable, not for our own pleasure, but because we are afraid of somebody else who "might not like it." There is a strong reason, founded upon the very best because the kindest of motives, for the retention "in society" of a certain republican simplicity of costume among men. The dandyism of the Restoration and of later epochs, with their velvets, satins, and feathers for men, was snobbish and ruinous. By all means let us keep to the plan by which a young man is allowed to enter the best society with a reasonable wardrobe, whatever may be his means. But to insist on his appearing in the muddy streets of London, about his every-day business, in a style of dress which is but a miserable pretence of his being there quite by accident, is one of the fallacies of a spurious respectability. "A saint in crape is twice a saint in lawn;" but a scamp in black is not one whit more respectable than an honest merchant in a suit of chequered tweed, even though the former support a guinea "gossamer," and the latter a "wide-awake" or a "pork-pie."

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

A GOOD-SERVICE PENSION OF £100 PER ANNUM has been conferred on Colonel W. N. Custance, C.B.

MR. SHERIDAN KNOWLES, the distinguished dramatist, who some years since quitted the stage for the pulpit, is suffering from severe illness in the neighbourhood of Belfast.

MRS. PVE, relief of poet-laureate Pve, died at Pinner last week, aged ninety-one. Mrs. Pve survived her husband forty-eight years. Southey, Wordsworth, and Tennyson, have successively filled the post of laureate since Pve's death, in 1813.

THE JAPANESE are building a fortified residence for the British Envoy at Yokohama.

THE HEALTH OF CAPTAIN JOLLIFFE, M.P. for Wells, is reported to be much improved.

A NEW MAGAZINE, entitled the *Gentleman*, is to be published in the University of Cambridge.

EARL DUCIE last week competed in rifle-shooting with the crack shots of the Bristol Volunteer Corps, and carried off the principal and several other prizes.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA has conferred on M. Meyerbeer the Order of the Crown, Second Class, for his recent composition, "The Coronation March."

NO POEM OF SUFFICIENT MERIT has this year been offered to the adjudicators of the Seatonian Prize; and, consequently, 1861 will figure in the calendar as a blank.

THE CROP OF CULMANTS at CORINTH has this year been a very indifferent one, being about one-fourth less than that of 1860; and, in consequence, producers have severely covered the expense of cultivation.

COMMANDER HORATIO NELSON, of her Majesty's ship *Driver*, and Mr. Dowling, Master, have been tried at Halifax, N.S., for the loss of that vessel in the West Indies. The Captain was severely reprimanded, and the Master severely reprimanded and condemned to lose all seniority of rank.

A MANUSCRIPT OF GALILEO and an unpublished drama of Metastasio have lately been found in the archives of Lucca, and will shortly be made public.

M. COSTA has written a letter to the newspapers declining the testimonial which was proposed to be given to him next year.

A FINE SPECIMEN OF THE GOLDEN EAGLE was shot in Cornwall last week.

A WOMAN aged eighty recently walked from London to Penzance.

THE NOMINATION OF SHERIFFS for the counties of England and Wales for the ensuing year will, it is expected, take place on Tuesday, the 12th inst., in the Court of Exchequer.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOHN INGLIS, K.C.B., the defender of the Residency at Lucknow, will probably succeed Sir George Buller in the command of the troops in the Ionian Islands.

THE WARRIOR has left Spithead for her first sea trip. Lord Clarence Paget is on board of her.

IN KANDAHAR 8000 persons are stated to have fallen victims to cholera in eighteen days!

ORDERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN FOR THE FRENCH ARTILLERY REGIMENTS to undergo a reduction of about 2000 horses, as a measure of economy.

MR. TOOMS, up to within the last week or two superintendent of police for the Epworth division of the county of Lincoln, has been apprehended in London on a charge of forgery.

MR. CHARLES W. COLTON, of London, has been fined 40s. and bound over to keep the peace for horsewhipping Mr. Robert Montgomery, of Liverpool. The cause of offence was an insult which Mr. Colton alleged Mr. Montgomery had offered to Mrs. Colton.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE PLEBISCITE AT NAPLES has been chosen by the emigrant Neapolitan Princes and nobles to offer a sword of honour to their King, Francis II., and a diadem to the Queen.

THE SHIPS *AUSTRAL* AND *SFA STAR* sailed from the Downs on the same day, and, without seeing each other on the passage, both arrived at Adelaide also on the same day.

THE MORMON HIERARCHY now consists of three presidents, seven apostles, 2086 seventies, 75 highpriests, 994 elders, 514 priests, 475 teachers, 227 deacons, and 487 missionaries.

THE ESTIMATES of the public expenditure of Malta for 1862 have been published, and show that the amount required will be £146,332 13s. 11d. The expenditure in 1861 amounted to £148,283 6s. 2d.

THE FRENCH FISHERIES AT NEWFOUNDLAND have this year been very unsuccessful, there being a deficiency in the take of 30,000 quintals of fish.

IT IS REMARKED that the Home Government has at length consented to the legalisation in Great Britain, Ireland, and the colonies of the gold coinage of Australia.

THE MATERIALS OF THE INDIA HOUSE, Leadenhall-street, were sold by public auction on Monday last. It is believed that the site of the late India House will be used for the erection of chambers on an extensive scale for public purposes.

THE TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCH which announced the death of General Gerstengweig was an error, as the state of that officer is improving, and hopes are entertained of his recovery.

COMMISSIONERS from the Southern Confederation of America are on their way to Europe to offer, it is said, great commercial advantages to England and France, and place their Confederation under the protection of either which will accept it.

THE YOUNG OFFICER OF THE 7TH FUSILIERS accused of theft at Gibraltar has virtually admitted his guilt, and escaped the punishment for one crime by committing another. He has broken his arrest and has deserted. It is believed that he has made his way to Algiers.

THE CARRIAGE OF GENERAL LORD W. PAULET, commanding the North-western district, was upset in Portsmouth on Friday evening week, when his Lordship had his shoulder dislocated, and sustained other injuries; but he is now in a fair way of recovery.

THE ARRAS JOURNALS record a singular circumstance—the killing in the neighbourhood of that city of four partridges perfectly white.

MR. JOHN CHARLES ARUNDALE was on Sunday evening last killed at the Newcastle Central Railway station. The unfortunate gentleman fell under a train which was approaching the station, the wheels of several carriages passed over his neck, and nearly severed the head from the body.

A MAN, NAMED MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM, residing in Leeds, had died from the effects of a dose of nitric acid which had been administered to him by a shopkeeper in mistake for a mixture for the relief of the toothache.

THE RUSSIANS, under pretence of surveying, have been quietly establishing themselves on the Island of Tsushima, between Japan and the Corea, and have built there storehouses and an hospital.

JOHN WHITELOCK has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment at the Luton Sessions for brutally thrashing two pauper girls, who had been apprenticed to him by the guardians of Hemel Hempstead to learn the business of bonnet-making.

THE SUM OF £109 has been paid over to the funds of the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, being the proceeds (deducting expenses) of a lecture delivered in the Assembly Rooms there by M. Du Chailu.

ON SATURDAY MORNING a man about forty was found huddled up and dead in an outbuilding near the Mint, Southwark, and another, about forty, in the New-road, Marylebone, both having perished from want and exposure to the inclemency of the weather.

M. BLONDIN nearly met with a serious accident at the Crystal Palace last week. During his performance he lost his balance, and would have fallen had he not caught the rope with his feet. After hanging for a few minutes he succeeded in extricating himself from the awkward predicament.

COUNTY-COURT JUDGES are now eligible to sit as members of Parliament. The Act 10th and 11th Vict., cap. 102, prohibited county-court Judges from being members of the House of Commons; and in the new Bankruptcy Act that statute, except sec. 4, was repealed, and there is now no law to prevent them, becoming members of the Legislature.

THE CALCUTTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE have presented an address and a testimonial to Colonel Baird Smith for his valuable reports on the causes of the recent famine and the depression of trade in the north-western provinces, and in acknowledgment of the services rendered by him to commerce.

THE COUNCIL of the United Trades of the West of Scotland, representing thirty trades, have issued an address to the working men of the United Kingdom urging them to take action in order to obtain an extension of the electoral franchise. They have also sent a memorial on the subject to Lord Palmerston.

LONDON has within the last eight days been the scene of an unusual number of fires, no less than eight having occurred between Saturday night and Sunday morning, and every day and night several have happened in various parts of the metropolis. Much property has been destroyed, and several lives seriously endangered.

AN INFLUENTIAL LOCAL COMMITTEE has been formed at Cambridge for the purpose of successfully carrying out the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at that town next year. The gathering will be held later in the season than usual, and will not take place till the first week in October.

ACCORDING TO RECENT OFFICIAL STATISTICS, out of 489,332 persons in the province of Madrid, 266,992 could neither read nor write. In the province of Tarragona, out of 321,886 inhabitants, 271,404 could neither read nor write; and in the district of Moncada alone, out of 26,000, 23,000 could neither read nor write.

LORD MONCK was sworn at Quebec on the 25th ult. as Administrator of Canada, his full powers not having arrived. Sir E. Head and family were to leave for England by the next steamer.

A CORRESPONDENT WRITES FROM ST. CROIX, Danish West Indies, under date Oct. 12, as follows:—"The weather continues favourable, and our island healthy. We are in great hopes of reaping a large crop. I have never seen better prospects on my estate."

THE FOUNDATION-STONE of a NEW AGRICULTURAL HALL in Islington was laid on Tuesday. This erection is intended to take the place of the Baker-street Bazaar for the annual Christmas show of the Smithfield Cattle Club.

DEERFOOT, the Indian runner, was beaten in a one-mile race at Sheffield on Monday.

IT IS STATED THAT CURRAN, the cabinman, tried at Dublin last week for committing an outrage upon a young lady, was convicted of a similar offence some time ago in the county of Kildare.

ALFRED MYNNS, the well-known cricketer, died in London last week, in his 55th year.

THE SCULPTOR GIOVANNI PAUBIANI, of Milan, has been commissioned by M. Ernesto Zucconi, of London, to execute a white marble statue of Garibaldi. It is to be of the natural size, and will be sent to England.

IT IS STATED THAT ISMAIL PACHA, the well-known Hungarian General Kmetz, is about to retire from the military service of Turkey, and to reside in London.

A YOUNG LADY WAS BURNED TO DEATH at Earlsdon, near Coventry, on Saturday night last, in consequence of the sleeve of her night-dress catching fire from a lighted candle as she was about to retire to rest.

SERGEANT WILLIAM COTTRELL, of her Majesty's 76th Regiment, has just received a nice little addition to his pay in the shape of a legacy of £1452 16s. 6d., bequeathed by his brother, Mr. W. C. Cottrell, recently deceased in England.

ONE OF THE FINEST PEARLS IN THE WORLD has recently been found in the Bay of Panama. It is of a perfect pear shape and of the finest water.

THE HON. MRS. YELVERTON has returned to her residence in Westland-row, Dublin, from Tintrim House, in the county of Galway.

A COLLISION occurred between a passenger and a cattle train near New Cross station on Monday evening, in consequence of which the traffic was stopped for upwards of two hours, though, fortunately, no injury to person was inflicted.

THREE OFFICERS OF THE MILANESE LANCERS were assassinated by the brigands on the 31st ult. while walking in the neighbourhood of Foglia.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA has conferred the order of the Red Eagle, first class, on Abd-el-Kader, for the protection which the Emir gave to the Christians of the Lebanon.

GARIBALDI has been elected Grand Master of the Italian Freemasons.

A FRENCH PAPER says that it is at Brussels that the greatest quantity of beer is consumed; at Stockholm the most brandy; at Madrid the most chocolate; at Paris the most absinthe; at Constantinople the most coffee; and at London the greatest quantity of strong wines.

GUY FAWKES' DAY.—Tuesday being the anniversary of the "Gunpowder Plot," the London boys and those of larger growth amused themselves by carrying about representatives of the old conspirator dressed up in all varieties of costume. During the last few years representatives of Guy Fawkes have almost entirely given way to figures of persons who at the time happened to be particularly obnoxious, and amongst them Cardinal Wiseman, the Emperor of Russia, and other notabilities have been shown through London streets. On Tuesday there were a few representatives of slaves being vigorously lashed after the *Legree* fashion, in allusion to current events in America; but the whole affair was without point, and failed to get up any excitement. There being such a paucity of subjects to choose from, recourse was again had to the old favourite, and Guy Fawkes came out quite fresh with his hideous mask, his short pipe, and his gigantic bundles of faggots and matches. The effigies were not, however, on so extensive a scale as on many previous years, and the subscriptions of the public, to whom the usual appeals were made, appeared to be anything but liberal.

A PREDICAMENT OF THE MILANESE.—A most ludicrous and extraordinary case of imposture has recently been exposed in France. A young man has just been condemned for a long course of swindling, over whom the Bishop of Poitiers pronounced last year an eloquent and solemn funeral oration, in the belief that he had been killed at the battle of Castelfidardo, fighting in the cause of the Pope. Having previously succeeded in swindling various priests by stories of sudden conversion from Protestantism, this modern Don Raphael announced last year that he was about to join the Papal Brigade, and subsequently dispatched a letter to his protectors in Poitiers in which he informed them that he had been mortally wounded at Castelfidardo, and was dying happy as a defender of the Pope. The letter was forwarded, included in another, announcing that the hero and martyr had breathed his last. The Bishop of Poitiers held a solemn mass and pronounced the funeral oration referred to. Unfortunately, the slain champion of the Papal cause returned to earth and engaged in several new acts of swindling and cheating, which led to his arrest, his full identification, and the disclosure of his whole history. The martyr laughed a good deal himself in the court while the course of the trial was revealing the various exploits of his career.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

Dr. Lushington's judgment against Mr. Heath for heresy, to be followed by deprivation if the rev. gentleman do not within due time retract his errors, is so important, and involves such vast consequences to the Church, that it cannot be allowed to stand without appeal. On the heresies charged against Mr. Heath I say nothing here; but I may be allowed to say a few words upon the extraordinary ruling of the learned Judge. Dr. Lushington has decided peremptorily that the Articles are to be interpreted by the learned Judge, and by him alone. Hundreds of learned divines have written on these Articles; but Dr. Lushington will allow of no reference to these learned divines. Burnet is of no authority in this controversy, nor Pearson; Dr. Lushington, and he alone, is the sole interpreter. The sixth article distinctly says that whatever is not in the Scriptures, or cannot be proved thereby, is not to be believed "as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation;" and the twentieth article distinctly denies to the church the power to ordain anything "contrary to God's word written." But Dr. Lushington will not permit even a reference to the Scriptures; in short, Dr. Lushington is an autocrat, guided by no counsel.

As who should say—I am Sir Oracle,
And when I ope my mouth let no dog bark.

As, as I have said, it is quite impossible that such a judgment as this should be allowed to stand without appeal. Mr. Heath may be a dangerous heretic—may, indeed, for aught I know, deserve deprivation. But the ruling of Dr. Lushington is a net which may be made to catch any sort of divines according to the opinions of the man who handles it. One Judge would swoop up all the High Churchmen; another all the Low; a third all the Broad. In fine, if Dr. Lushington's judgment be law, we shall see such a tempest in the Church as we have not seen since the days of Dr. Sacheverell.

I find in "Byrne's Naval Biography" the name of Lord Frederick Charles Peter Beauchamp, Commander in the Navy. I suppose this must be the gallant gentleman who perished at Scarborough on Sunday, the 2nd inst., in attempting to save the crew of the lifeboat. Lord Charles was the second son of the late Duke of St. Albans, and uncle of the present Duke. He was born in 1803; served as a midshipman in the Asia, 84, under the flag of Sir Edward Boscawen, at Navarino, in 1827; got his first commission in 1824; remained in active service in various parts of the world until 1834, when, so says my authority, he attained the rank of Commander and retired on half pay. Poor fellow! When he entered the Navy, no doubt foresaw, among the possibilities of his career, that he would die a sailor's death; but little did he dream that it would come to him in this way. He has left a wife and family to mourn his loss.

When the Earl of Mulgrave was made Governor of Nova Scotia, it was generally considered that no great mischief was done. True, the noble Lord was about as fit to be a colonial Governor, where a Governor was wanted, as he was qualified to be Lord Chancellor; but at Nova Scotia no Governor was wanted. To use a vulgar expression, "The boot was on the other leg." It was not that the "Blue Noses" wanted a Governor, but that the Earl of Mulgrave wanted a Governor. His Lordship had been a devout and earnest supporter of the Whig Government in several of its phases—a zealous champion of the party for many years; and the time was come for him to have his reward, and so he was sent to Nova Scotia. It was not a splendid reward, all things considered; but it was a good step, which the noble Lord hoped would lead to something better soon. In this, however, he will, now his father has developed into a decided opponent of his former patrons, probably be disappointed. The noble Lord—Mulgrave, I mean—is not, however, uncomfortable amongst the "Blue Noses"; he enjoys great state, has £3000 a year, plenty of fishing and shooting, and little to do, and can hardly go very wrong. But what are we to think of the appointment of Lord Monck to the governorship of Canada? Canada is not Nova Scotia, but a much more important colony, and, with the American civil war raging, ought to have a specially able and experienced Governor. Lord Monck, however, is neither able nor experienced. He was in the House from 1852 to 1857, but showed no ability. He was a Lord of the Treasury and junior whip for a few months; but neither junior Lord nor junior whip did he shine. Perhaps at the Treasury it was impossible to shine; but as whip it was well known that he was a failure. In short, this is a bad appointment—one of those wretched jobs which have so often led to disasters in our colonies. But it is too late to object, for Lord Monck is gone; and if the appointment should be overhauled next Session, the answer will be a florid encomium on Lord Monck from Lord Lyndhurst, and the objecter will be silenced.

Mr. Morrison, the son of Morrison the millionaire, who died some years back, and a member of the firm of Todd, Morrison, and Co., and Mr. Addington, the Conservative, at Plymouth. In 1850 Lord Valletot, the Conservative, beat Mr. White, the Radical, by 189; and now Mr. Morrison beats the Conservative by 195. How is this? Well, the Conservatives were in power in 1859, and had influence at Plymouth; now the Liberals are in office; and, further, Mr. Morrison is immensely rich, and Mr. Addington is not. This is the first seat, I think, which the Liberals have gained since the general election.

The pamphlet in answer to Mr. Gladstone's, to which I alluded a week ago, is entitled "A Vindication of the Duke of Modena; from official documents and other authentic sources, selected and revised, with an Introduction, by the Marquis of Normanby, K.G.;" and it was generally thought by the public that the pamphlet was all written by the Marquis, and so thought Mr. Gladstone, and he had mended his pen and otherwise prepared for a reply. But, lo! it turns out that the introduction only is the production of the noble K.G., and Mr. Gladstone refuses to fight with a man in a mask.

On the numerous vacation speeches made by members of Parliament, four only deserve special commendation to wit, Sir Edward Bulwer-Lytton's; Lord Palmerston's, on competitive examinations; Lord Stanley's, on mechanics' institutes; and one delivered last week by Mr. Du Cane, being his inaugural address on his election to the chairmanship of the Witham Literary Institution. Mr. Du Cane is considered to be one of our rising men in the House, and no doubt has capabilities; and if he will but make himself master of political economy—a branch of knowledge in which he is sadly deficient—prune down his language, moderate his action, and in general

Alay with some cold drops of modesty
The skipping epiri,

he may yet become a power in the House. Mr. Du Cane says he did not propose the repeal of the paper duty on educational but financial grounds, which one is glad to hear. It is difficult, however, to understand, if this were so, his sanction of the proposition to remit the amount of taxation on tea than the Chancellor of the Exchequer was up by the repeal of the duty on paper.

I was in error last week in supposing that Mr. Edmund Potter, one of the candidates for the representation of Carlisle, belonged to the firm of Potter, Norris, and Co., of Manchester. I find that the gentleman in question is the head of the large firm of Messrs. Edmund Potter and Co., calico-printers, Manchester.

Something must really be done to put the skid on the "liner," which from the number of daily journals now published, has become quite a power in the newspaper world. Each sub-editor is naturally anxious to outdo his contemporaries, and, as in the minds of some of these gentlemen quantity is better than quality, that well known instrument the pruning-knife is less frequently and less skillfully used to the "liner's" statements. A grand example of exaggerated and inflated evening verbiage can be found in a statement published to certain evening journals, and published by them last week. This account was headed "Extraordinary Occurrence at the General Post Office," and proceeded to describe the particulars of an

"investigation into the extraordinary delay of upwards of 500 bankers' parcels at the General Post Office." The next sentence commenced with a noble bit of English writing, "From the several sources at his command our reporter gleaned that it appears evident," &c. Next we find that, "as a matter of course, the bankers, merchants, and, 'though last, not least' (bless him, how he loves a quotation!), the authorities of the Bank of England instituted inquiries," &c. "One of the officers of the establishment named Pritchard, was locked up on suspicion for twelve hours." "Wheeler, a messenger, has been suspended," and so forth. This delicious paragraph was copied into many of the daily journals, and it was not until the appearance of the *Express* on Wednesday evening that the whole statement was discovered to have been most grossly exaggerated. Instead of five hundred parcels only eighty-nine were delayed, and of these but five were for bankers: the only "inquiry instituted" was by a verbal message from the Bank of England. No officer of the establishment was locked up on suspicion, and Pritchard, the letter-carrier, whose name was mentioned wrote most indignantly to the press to deny the imputation. "Wheeler, a messenger," was not suspended, and the entire matter had been grossly, and it would appear wilfully, misrepresented. For the "liner" himself, it must be urged in palliation that he has his living to get, and that at this time of the year, when "enormous gooseberries" are not in season, "showers of frogs" seldom seen and never believed in, and "curious freaks of nature" out of fashion, he must have a hard time of it. But the sub-editors of the daily press are morally responsible, and they should be specially careful in making themselves acquainted with the character of those who supply them with "flimsy."

Who is responsible for the spelling on our public buildings? Whether the market is overstocked with "e's," or whether there is a scarcity of "a's," I know not, but any one visiting the new Record Office in Fetter-lane may read on each side of the door the neatly-graven motto, "Quis sepebabit."

Last week the *Critic* quoted and commented on my recent paragraph about Mr. Devey's forthcoming "Life of Cavour," and spoke of Mr. Devey as "a writer in the Westminster, we believe, and not the Quarterly." Mr. Devey has contributed but one article to the *Westminster*, several to the *Quarterly Review*. The *Critic* further said that the announcement that Fra Giacomo, Count Cavour's confessor, would write a chapter in the book "must be either a 'dodge' or a 'canard.'" It is neither the one nor the other. Fra Giacomo has written a chapter for the biography, and that chapter is now in Mr. Devey's possession.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Miss Aronia Jones, a tragedian from Australia, made her appearance at DURY LANE on Monday, and played in an English version of Ristori's "Medea." She has intelligence, a fine figure, and a most melodious voice; and will probably achieve success.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.
THE MAGAZINES.

The November number of *St. James's Magazine* is quite up to the average. In "Sick Sailors" we have an excellent description of the purpose of the Dreadnought; "Autumn Love" is the name of some rather too long, but, as things go, very respectable verses; the mixture of "love" and "trade," perhaps, rather jars upon the eye and ear. There is the usual contribution towards the story of "Can Wrong be Right?" which is, to say the least, quite equal to the preceding numbers. In "For the Young of the Household" we have a praiseworthy attempt to extend the reading of shilling magazines to the nursery.

Temple Bar is made of sterner stuff. In the "Seven Sons of Mammon" Mr. Sala's own style, as contradistinguished from other people's, which he sometimes unhappily falls into, shines conspicuously. Take, for instance, the terse, pregnant sentence, "You may be quite sure that the people whom you have never offended will never forgive you." The catastrophe is managed with consummate skill; and the cynicism of the author, provoked by the prophets of ill after the event, is beyond praise both in knowledge of character and power of expression. In "The Mystery of Fernwood" we have an instalment of a story which promises to be interesting. "Notes on Flying," though a somewhat deceptive title, is charmingly written, being mostly pleasant gossip upon stallions, rooks, and the feathery tribe generally. *Temple Bar* contains an appreciative article on that poet of the future, Percy Bysshe Shelley. Mr. Planché contributes an article on extravaganzas and spectacle, which is evidently a reply to one in the *Cornhill* on a similar subject. It is pugnacious, but not unnaturally so. He dwells upon the ill-treatment now-a-days of the dramatic author, who is "made a peace-offering to the scene-painter." At any rate, if any one has a right to speak dogmatically on this subject it is Mr. Planché. Cardinal Antonelli is not unfairly treated, though perhaps too much stress is laid upon "antediluvian mouth and Egyptian eyes." "With Mr. Gorilla's Compliments" is the name of a humorous paper on the claims of M. Du Chaillu, and is by no means favourable to this much-disserved gentleman.

The *Cornhill* has always its well-supported editor to rely upon. But how long shall we tolerate the sway of the magician? There is much good writing and smart talk in the new instalment of "Philip's Adventures." Still, as we read the scene in the Champs Elysées, where Philip is walking with his love, we cannot help exclaiming, "We think we have read all this before!" The illustration by Doyle, "At the Seaside," is simply bad. "The First Principle of Physiognomy" is the second article on this subject in the *Cornhill*. It is pleasant and ingenious. Some verses, "A No," are so poor that they would probably not have found their way into any other periodical. Once more, I ask, why are the verses in the *Cornhill* always so trashy? Upon that all important class, "Cooks," are some agreeable pages, chiefly historical. The process of paper-making is described in one of those painstaking articles which are the best feature of this magazine. On the whole, the number is decidedly dull, and below its character.

When it has been said that *Fraser* contains a second essay, better than the first, on Utilitarianism, by Mr. John Stuart Mill, its claim to universal interest is established. I think, however, there is a fallacy in the paper, which I will leave readers to discover for themselves, if so minded. Mr. Mill has, and justly, so high a reputation, and is from his very calmness and philosophic attitude so seductive a writer, that we cannot be too much on our guard against possible error. I do not, however, question his views in the main. The author of "Guy Livingstone" seems scarcely seated in his saddle as yet; at all events, I miss, in such instalments of "Buren Honour" as have already appeared, the dash and *élan* which distinguished Mr. G. A. Lawrence's former works. A. K. H. B. has one of his usually readable, sensible essays this month "Concerning People who have had to carry Weight;" and there is a clever and caustic review of the art-exhibitions of the present season by Mr. W. M. Rossetti.

The most interesting and telling article in *Blackwood* is one on "How the World Treats Discoverers," a fertile subject, and one which might afford scope for more extended treatment. "Mr. Buckle's Scientific Errors" are pointed out unsparingly, but the writer of the paper avows his admiration of the great abilities of the historian of civilisation. The would-be facetious ballads in *Blackwood* are very heavy reading. There are two this month, one on "Sir Cresswell Cresswell," the other on the "Cramming System"—the first is by far the best, but neither is up to the mark. The number concludes with a warm eulogium on the late Earl of Eglington.

That *Macmillan's* is somewhat lighter and pleasanter reading than it used to be, is probably owing to the vivifying effect of Mr. Henry Kingsley's novel of "Ravenshoe," which proceeds admirably. There

are two In Memoriam critical and biographical articles this month—one of Hugh Macdonald, a Glasgow journalist, written by Mr. Alexander Smith; and the other of the late Mr. Herbert Coleridge. Neither of these papers possesses any interest for general readers. Mr. Coventry Patmore's poem, "The Victories of Love," is marked by all that manly vigour for which the writer is remarkable. Here is a splendid passage, full of fire and strength:—

Then, soon
After the finished honeymoon,
He'll give to Emily and John
The little ones to practise on;
And major-domo Mrs. Rouse,
A dear old soul from Ashfield House,
Will scold the housemaid and the cook
'Till Emily has learned to look
A little braver than a lamb
Surprised by dog without its dam.

The most interesting paper is called "Paris Revisited, by One who knew it well." It contains some novel information and striking truths.

PUBLIC MEETINGS AND SPEECHES.

The Conservatives had a demonstration at Worcester last week, at which the principal speakers were Lord Shrewsbury, Sir John Lubbock, Lord Stanley, and the Hon. P. Lygon. All the speakers strongly insisted upon the alleged reaction towards Conservatism, and most of them declared that in Lord Palmerston we have a most decidedly Conservative Premier; but Sir John Lubbock said he could not confide in the Premier's Conservatism, because that noble Lord did not seem to have confidence in it himself. Sir John thought our Government right in proclaiming neutrality, but wished that Lord Russell, when at Newcastle, had expressed in more decided language the views of England with regard to the civil war in America; but he culls upon the great Powers to offer the strongest "remonstrances" against a continuance of the struggle. The Earl of Shrewsbury, in reviewing Lord Palmerston's career, said he could only compare the Premier to a successful political blindman. He directed the tight-rope with a admirable agility, and he looked down from the giddy height upon the country, caring for nothing but remaining in Parliament and in power.

General Peel had his portrait painted by request and at the expense of the Conservatives among the constituency of Huntingdon, and, on the occasion of placing it in the Townhall of the borough, made a speech in which he, too, congratulated the country on Lord Palmerston's Conservatism, and stated his conviction that had Sir Robert Peel lived he would have joined the Conservative party, as he (General Peel) had felt it his duty to do.

Lord Malmesbury made five speeches at the South Avon Agricultural Society's dinner last week, with reference to the Army and Navy, agriculture, himself, the volunteers, and the House of Lords. He strongly advocated the maintenance of the volunteer force in all its efficiency, and said that, in his legislative capacity, he would never give his vote for or against any measure unless he were perfectly convinced that at the moment he was acting rightly to his countrymen.

Speeches have been delivered by Mr. Leatham and Mr. Stansfeld at the annual soirée of the Wakefield Mechanics' Institution. The first-named hon. gentleman announced that, in accordance with a suggestion made by Mr. Bright, a class for the study of political economy had been formed in connection with the institution. He also alluded to the repeal of the paper duties, and to the beneficial influence of the cheap press. Upon the subject of America both hon. gentlemen ascribed the present difficulties between the North and the South to the cause of slavery.

The Bishop of Oxford and the Earl of Carlisle delivered addresses at York last week, in making their way to promote the interests of the country school for the blind, in which they warmly advocated the interests of that unfortunate class of persons. In order to stir up the men of York to do their duty the noble Earl told them that the town of Liverpool alone had done more for the blind than the whole of Yorkshire; and that, if they did not bestir themselves, the "pale race of York" would be entirely eclipsed by its rival of Lancashire.

Mr. Ayton, M.P., presided at the opening of a new lecture-room at Bromley-by-Bow on Monday evening, and delivered a speech on the advantages of education and the importance of the means of mental culture being placed within the reach of all classes of the people. Mr. Trevelyan—late an aspirant to senatorial honours for a metropolitan constituency, who has extensive chemical works in the district and is the donor of the lecture-room—also spoke, and expressed the satisfaction he felt in contributing to the diffusion of knowledge and the development of habits of study among the humbler orders of society. The new room is expected to prove a great boon to the neighbourhood.

The Duke of Marlborough attended a meeting to found a "Church Defence Association" at Statham, in which he spoke of the high mission of the Church, and vindicated her right to her endowments, as necessary to her usefulness, and as having been the gift of our ancestors, given to the Church to enable her to fulfil that great mission and to stand before men in a position of independence, and the freedom necessary to enable her to seek the lost and reprove the sinning. His Grace thus concluded his address:—If the Church had these large endowments, that recognised position in the country, that array of ministers under episcopal superintendence, it must be governed by law, and regulations infinitely wider in their range and more important in their results than those agreed upon and observed by other religious bodies. These endowments must be subject to the control of Parliament, for without that their appropriation might not be as beneficial to the public as otherwise would be; and her ministers must be subject to a salutary discipline, with which errors and complications would arise in connection which would be prejudicial to her existence. It was necessary to her existence—not only for the purpose of placing her in a more prominent position than others, for her position was a legal one, handed down from our ancestors until it had become part of the constitution of the country—and, in fact, necessary for the proper administration of her revenues and management of her affairs, that all should be united in one common object—the public benefit.

A meeting of the Bristol Reform Union was held on Monday, when a resolution affirming the necessity of extending the franchise was unanimously agreed to. In the course of the proceedings the following was stated to be the constitution of the union:—"That the association recognise no settlement of the electoral system which does not include manhood suffrage, vote by ballot, short Parliaments, a more equitable apportionment of representatives to population, and the exemption of candidates from personal expense; but that, as progress towards this consummation must be gradual, the association pledges itself to support every well-considered effort in that direction."

On Monday evening Mr. Robertson Gladstone presided at a meeting held in the Concert Hall, Liverpool, on the subject of the "present enormous amount of taxation and wasteful extravagance of the public expenditure." After the chairman had delivered a long speech, during which he contended that indirect taxation was demoralising to the working classes, Mr. Washington Walkes delivered a lecture upon the subject, in the course of which he earnestly requested the men of Liverpool and of England to examine into the present system of taxation, and endeavour to reform it in order that they might be happier and better.

Mr. J. Locke, one of the members for South Park, met his constituents at the Bridge House Hotel, London-bridge, on Tuesday, and gave an account of his conduct as their representative during the late Session. Mr. Locke reviewed the measures of the Session, explaining the votes he had given, and declared his confidence in the present Government, and his determination to support Lord Palmerston on all questions on which he (Mr. Locke) could do so conscientiously, because he considered the Liberal party much more likely to promote the interests of the country, both at home and abroad, than the Conservatives.

THE INTERVENTION IN MEXICO.—The convention of England, France, and Spain, regarding the affairs of Mexico, was signed at London on the 31st of October. The following have been published as its chief provisions:—"The three Powers have the right to send the same naval strength. The strength of the forces that are to be landed is to be in proportion to the number of subjects which each of the Powers owns in Mexico, and in this respect Spain claims precedence. The troops will occupy Vera Cruz and the other cities on the coast where custom-houses are established. If, after a given delay, the Government of General Juárez has not paid up the money it owes, an advance will be made on the capital, and, should such a step lead to complications or unforeseen events, an agreement will be come to in common on the line of conduct to be followed in presence of those eventualities. The convention will be notified to the Cabinet at Washington, which will be invited to join the intervening Powers. It will be optional to the Government of President Lincoln to send such number of ships and troops as he may deem advisable under the circumstances."

THE REPRESENTATION OF CARLISLE.—Two candidates have started for Carlisle. The one, Mr. Edmund Potter, we have already mentioned. The other is Mr. W. N. Hodgson, who represented the borough on two previous occasions, and comes forward in the Conservative interest. Mr. Edward James, Q.C., has published an address to the electors, in which he states that he had intended to have become a candidate, but for Mr. Potter's interference with him he will not divide the Liberal interest, but reserve himself for some future opportunity.

THE CORONATION IN PRUSSIA.

THE coronation of their Prussian Majesties is now a matter of history, and the ceremonies attending it things of the past, probably in more senses than one, for, as it is long since such a display of pomp and parade was made on a like occasion in Prussia, it is very doubtful if the utilitarian spirit which is abroad even in Germany will allow of a repetition of similar ceremonies in the future. In these circumstances it may not be without advantage to place on permanent record, in a pictorial form, as many of the incidents connected with the recent coronation as possible; and with this view we this week give two more illustrations of the event. One of these is the scene in the chapel of the Knights of the Teutonic Order, when the King took the crown off its cushion, and placed it upon his head, which he did with an air of solemn dignity which deeply impressed the beholders. His Majesty then took up the sceptre and globe, and, turning towards the spectators, he held the former out at arm's length, and waved to and fro several times. Laying aside the globe, and passing the sceptre from the right hand to the left, the King grasped the Sword of State, and stood thus armed in front of the altar. After a few moments thus occupied, during which the clergy continued praying, the sword was laid aside, the King's train was borne by the attendants, and his Majesty proceeded to place the crown on the head of his consort. The proceedings in the chapel soon after terminated.

Our other Engraving shows the triumphal arch erected in the Alexander Platz or Square at Berlin on the occasion of the entry of the Royal cortège into Berlin on the return of their Majesties from Königsberg. This arch had been erected in what the Berliners called the "old classic style," and was adorned with statues emblematic of Wisdom, Industry, Art, and of Prussia. But the most interesting occurrence connected with it was that a white-robed army of 112 young maidens here stopped the cortège, presented bouquets and congratulatory verses to their Majesties, and some few of whom had the honour of kissing the Royal hands. No doubt these fair Berliners will feel no small measure of pride at the distinction they thus obtained, and be objects of envy to their less fortunate sisters.

Since his coronation the King of Prussia seems anxious to eradicate the awkward feeling which the strong assertion of Divine right in his coronation speeches had occasioned. In some remarks he addressed a few days ago to the people of Potsdam he said that he would ever remain faithful to the Constitution, and he hoped that the people would do the same, and would give him new proofs of it in the result of the approaching elections. Similar language was used by his Majesty to a deputation of students, to whom he observed, "I am for reasonable and moderate progress, and I intend to adhere to it."

His Majesty has also issued the following proclamation in reference to the recent celebration, and, as will be seen, the Divine-right doctrine is no longer insisted upon:—

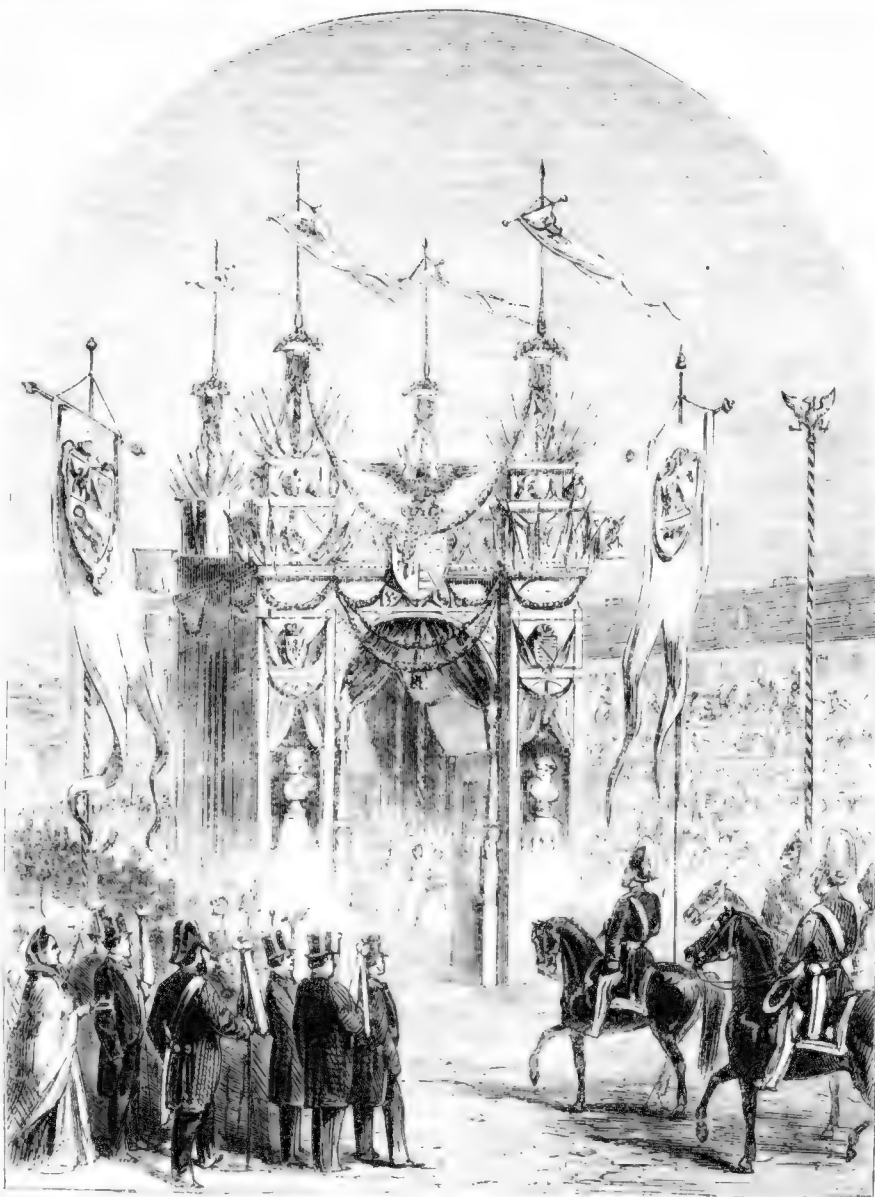
The solemnity which I accomplished on the 18th October has given a sacred consecration to my earthly calling. This celebration has been a truly native one, whilst it has invested the old indissoluble bands of the Royal house and the nation with a pledge of youthful strength. The warm and joyful sentiments which have been so unmistakably manifested in all parts of the country and by all classes of the people have most deeply moved me and the Queen, my consort, and have filled us with thankfulness. Such events are most gratifying.

The confidence of my people, on whose proved sentiments and devotion I at all times rely, I return by the most devoted love to our country, for whose welfare and power I always strive. True to my vocation, I recognise

in the uninterrupted advancement of the lawful development of the people the guarantee of future successes under the guidance of Providence.

At the close of the coronation my Ministry of State are commissioned to give universal circulation to these my sentiments of deeply-felt thanks and those of the Queen my consort.

On Thursday week the King of Prussia gave a farewell dinner to the Ambassadors sent to the coronation by foreign Powers. Lady Clarendon, the Duchess of Magenta, and the whole of the members of the embassies were present. The King proposed a toast to the distinguished Sovereigns who were represented by embassies, and at the same time expressed his thanks that personages so distinguished had been chosen on the occasion.



TRIUMPHAL ARCH ON THE ALEXANDER PLATZ, BERLIN.

THE ACCIDENT IN THE MINE AT LALLE.

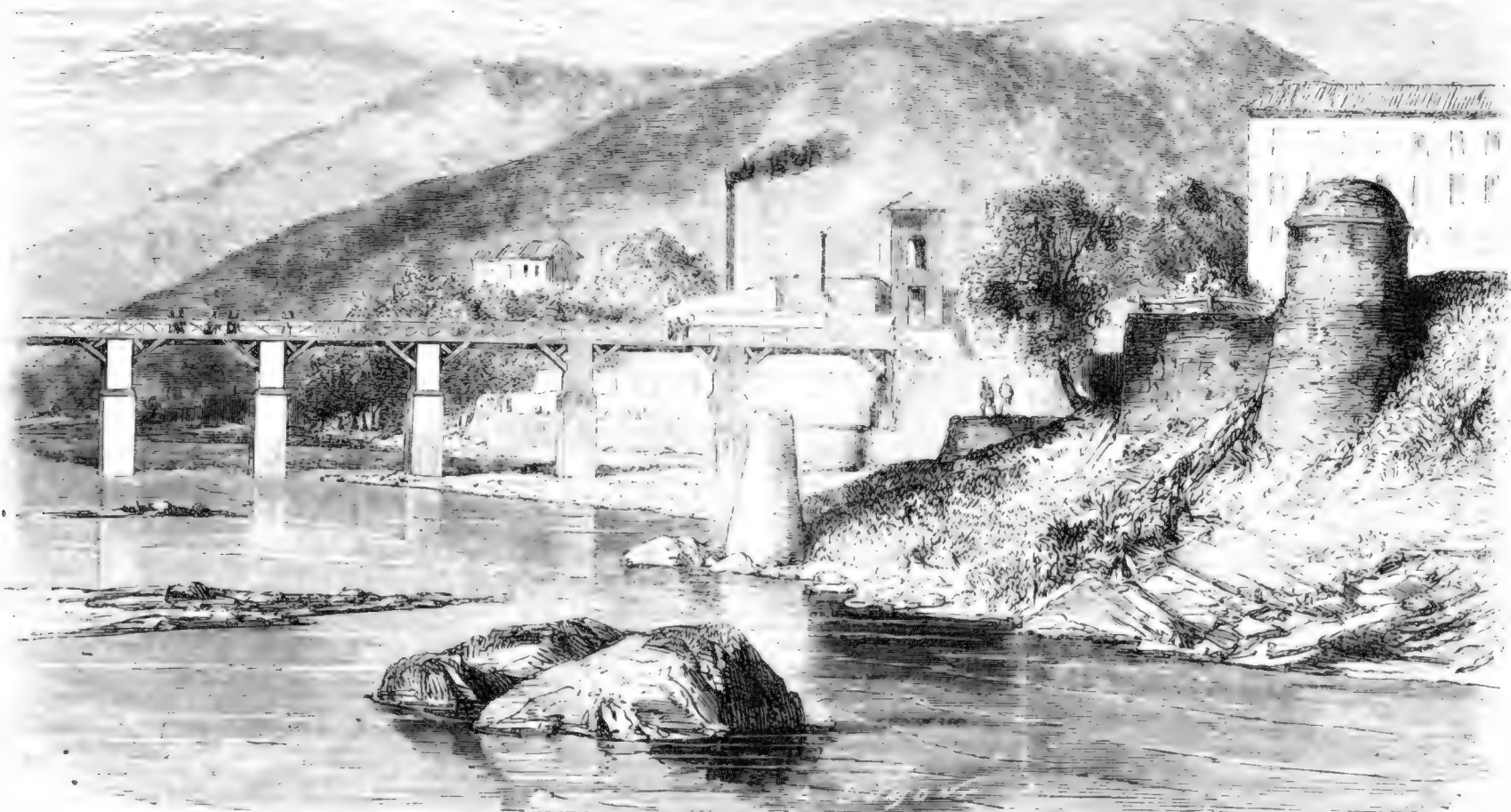
THE terrible accident at the mines of Lalle, near Bessèges, has already been matter of public notoriety; and we are able this week to give an Engraving of the scene of the disaster, as well as of the spot where the River Ceze joins the water-course.

It was at first believed that the lives of 300 workmen had fallen a sacrifice to the terrible calamity; and at the present time it would appear that the sudden death of more than a hundred of the men has left the neighbouring village almost desolate, to the grief of the widows and orphans, who have lost the means of support. Every effort was made to rescue the poor fellows who might, it was supposed, be alive beneath the ruins; but, although their comrades and everybody concerned worked with unceasing activity, it would seem that only five of the victims were rescued from destruction.

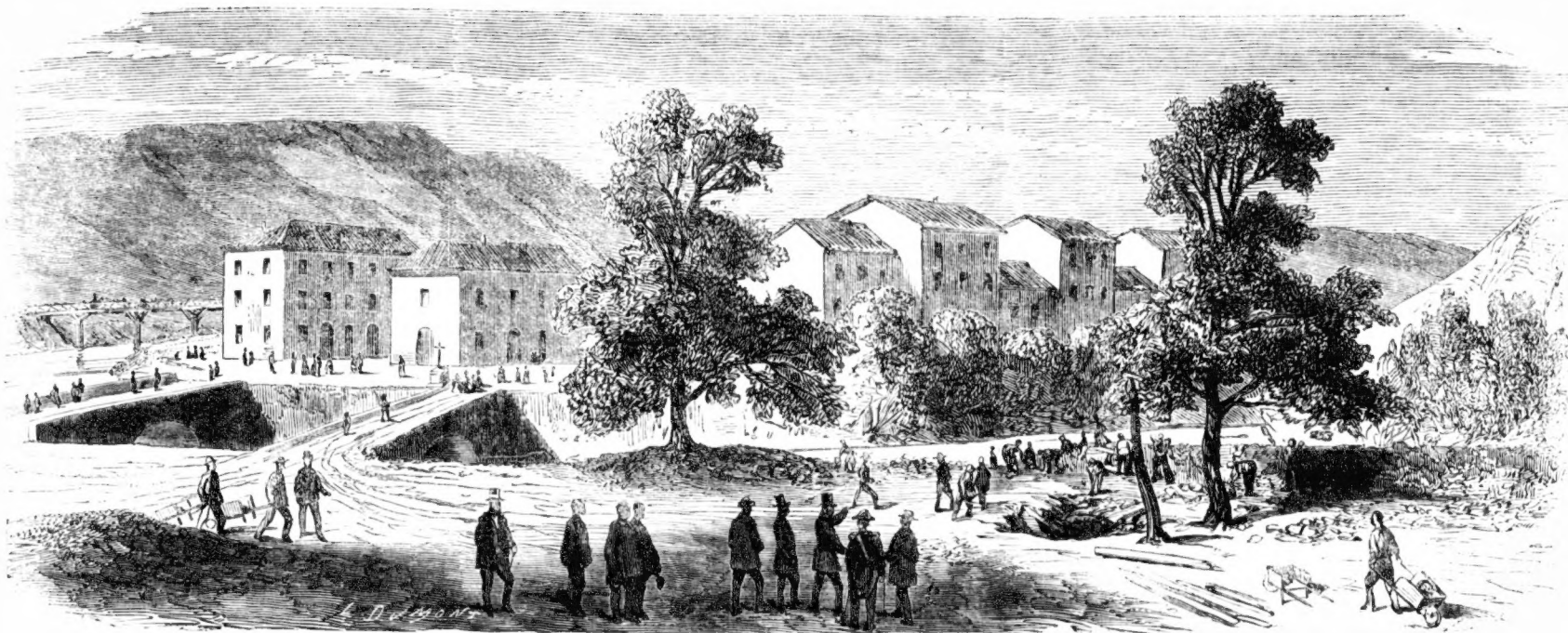
The body of one man was found near the surface, at the very spot where the water burst in. A sounding-lead was afterwards let down, which showed the depth of water in the mine to be 182 metres. At nine o'clock in the evening of the 12th the workmen employed in excavating a trench to get into one of the adits thought they heard a noise of some one within, and they continued their labour with increased activity. By midnight they had advanced six metres, but no further sound was heard. On the morning of the 14th it was found that some men were alive in a gallery 20 metres below where the men were digging, and a pit was immediately commenced in that direction, but in consequence of the difficulties attendant on the operation the work could advance but slowly. In the night of the 14th voices of some of the imprisoned workmen could be distinctly heard, and on being called to they replied, "There are four of us here, and we are all well." At eleven in the morning of the 15th there was still about two metres to cut through before they could be rescued.

The mine of Lalle extends along the left bank of the River Ceze to the north of Bessèges. At about nine hundred yards from the town there is a sort of double current formed by the junction of the Ceze with the stream of the Long, and of that with the Castellas. Swollen by the muddy avalanches which descend from the neighbouring mountains, the Ceze, the Long, and the Castellas overflowed simultaneously, and their waters rushing together formed into a kind of lake. All at once, however, the earth sunk, and the body of water finding its way into the mine filled it with fearful rapidity. A party of about twenty contrived to ascend by the usual means, and one of these men had the admirable courage to go down again and rescue four of his comrades and a child. Another who staid to secure his clothes was carried away by the flood. A party of four men occupying a position at a short distance from one of the shafts, ran in that direction: one of them having fallen was carried away, the three others managed to

reach an almost perpendicular passage, where they remained with considerable difficulty. Notwithstanding the extreme danger of their situation, however, in the midst of darkness, with a gulf roaring beneath them, and with only one or two bottles of wine to sustain them, the poor fellows kept up their courage. They had no doubt that every effort would be made for their recovery, and continued shouting and striking the walls in order to guide the workmen who were employed in the excavation. Happily their hopes of deliverance were ultimately realised, for eventually two men who were thoroughly acquainted with the mine went into a gallery close to where they were imprisoned, and their signals being understood, as they are common amongst the miners, a party was



THE INUNDATION OF THE MINES OF LALLE.—JUNCTION OF THE RIVERS CEZE AND LONG, WHERE THE INUNDATION ORIGINATED.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. LALLE.)



THE MINES OF LALLE, SHOWING THE OPENING THROUGH WHICH THE FLOOD ENTERED THE MINE.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. BERTHON.)

immediately organised to dig through all obstacles. They had to make a trench through about thirty yards, and go round and round ground composed of beds of coal and rock. Meanwhile there was danger in every stroke of the pick in case it should strike some captive lying beneath or open a new way for the waters to engulf fresh victims.

Through all the toil and excitement, however, Messrs. Parran and Chalmeton, the engineers of the mines, showed an example of courage and endurance to the men, and both of them, lying on their faces, and pick in hand, worked and encouraged the rest to work with them. Unhappily their efforts were only effectual in saving five lives, and with melancholy interest the work was continued in order to rescue the bodies of their unfortunate comrades from the terrible grave which had inclosed them.

The engineers who so nobly wrought in the attempted deliverance have received from the Emperor crosses of the Legion of Honour.

rated on so great an occasion; while their necks and arms are encircled—it should rather be said hung—with pearls and jewellery, which may be accounted for by the fact that the most opulent families earnestly seek the honour of contributing towards the magnificence of the ceremony.

Our Engraving will represent to our readers one of these little *anginhos*, together with her mulatto attendant. The fruitseller with her piccaninny at her back is the common type of nigger; and the sable musician exhibits the new uniform adopted by order of Don Pedro II. for the band of Santa Cruz.

VIOLENT STORM.

On Saturday last a severe storm swept over the coasts of Yorkshire, Durham, and Northumberland. Towards three o'clock on Saturday a change of weather took place on the Northumberland coast. White clouds made their appearance, banking up upon the edge of the horizon. Notwithstanding various premonitions of a change, about fifty deeply-laden colliers and foreign vessels left the Tyne for the south. The night set in very dark and wet, with sheet lightning flashing in all directions. At seven o'clock the following morning a telegraphic message was received at Shields from Admiral Fitzroy, of the Board of Trade, London:—"To-morrow hoist drum all day." The explanation of this was that dangerous winds might be expected from nearly opposite quarters successively. The gale came on with great fury about half-past eleven o'clock from the N.E. Between one and three o'clock on Saturday morning the storm was awful, as the wind brought up blinding showers of rain and sleet from the northward, and the sea rose with great suddenness, sweeping over the piers at the mouth of the harbour. Very few persons who had friends at sea slept much that night, no such storm having been experienced since the fearful 9th of February, when so many seamen were drowned and vessels lost upon the north coast. The wind, fortunately, kept off the coast, otherwise there would have been a repetition of the tragical scenes of that memorable day. A great deal of damage was done in the Tyne by sailing-vessels and steam-tugs breaking from their moorings, and several Goliah cranes and other plant were smashed up by the heavy seas which swept the piers. Some injury was also done to the pier works on the south side of the water, and a very high tide, which inundated much of the lower part of Shields on Saturday afternoon, did further mischief.

COSTUMES AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

The capital of Brazil, with the most magnificent bay in the world, commanded by fortresses—with its narrow pavements and fine aqueduct—is built along the western shore of that mighty harbour where the largest ships may find security. The town extends along the shore for about three miles on an undulating plain, to the west of which rises a range of hills called Corcovado, amongst the picturesque valleys of which may be found that superb Laranjeiras, or valley of oranges, so remarkable for its beauty. The plain upon which the city lies contains, however, one hill of considerable height, and on this stands the Church of Nossa Senhora da Gloria. This church is one of those picturesque structures which give so much character to the aspect of Rio de Janeiro, either melancholy or pleasant, according to the associations in the mind of the observer.

On the morning of the great fête, which takes place on the 15th of August, however, all the inhabitants of the city (the black and the white being in pretty equal proportion) may be seen proceeding to the church on the hill. Foot passengers and vehicles all press towards the same point, and the combination of costumes, colours, and animated gestures, combine to produce a spectacle of the most picturesque description. During this fête, which is that of Saint Sebastian, the patron of the city, and after the Carnival, there occurs the celebrated procession of the Franciscans, in which there march a number of children invested in an extraordinary costume, supposed to represent angels or *anginhos*. They wear a rather short skirt, extensively crinolined, to which are fastened wings of variously coloured gauze extended upon hoops of bamboo or of silver wire. Their hair is curled, frizzled, powdered, and pomatumed with a profusion not easily attained, and only to be tol-



RIO JANEIRO COSTUMES ON A FETE DAY.

At Hartlepool during the early part of Saturday morning two vessels were driven ashore to the northward of Seaton Carew, one being a foreign vessel laden with timber, and the other a light barque. The crews of both vessels were rescued by means of the life-boat at Seaton. About two o'clock the wind got round to the north-west, still blowing very heavily. At West Hartlepool considerable damage was done, attended with loss of life. The brig *Amelia* was lying upon the gridiron in the basin, undergoing some repairs. There were on board a man and a boy, or two boys, in charge of her. As the tide rose she floated off the gridiron, and, by the force of the gale, broke from her fastenings and drove out of the harbour into the bay, since which time she has not been seen. As she had no ballast on board, it was surmised that she would speedily roll over and founder. She was the property of Messrs. Pyman and Scurr, of West Hartlepool. A large dredging-machine broke adrift in the basin and received some damage, and several fishermen's boats were considerably injured. A melancholy accident occurred in the fore-

noon in the West Hartlepool basin. A boat with seven or eight men went off to secure the dredge that had broken loose, and after they had done so, and were returning, the boat suddenly swamped, and they were all thrown into deep water. Several boats put off, and succeeded in saving all but one—an old man named Donald. Two of the others were so exhausted when brought on shore that their recovery was very doubtful. During the afternoon the gale continued unabated, the sea breaking at a great distance from the land. The tide rose higher than it has done for many years, causing considerable damage to waterside property. The sea broke over the new pier in a manner that was truly grand, frequently about forty feet above the top of the parapet-wall. So great was its force that it displaced several yards of the heavy parapet-stones, breaking them to pieces.

On the Yorkshire coast the storm has been attended with even more deplorable consequences. At Scarborough, before the storm had reached its height, a small vessel called the Wave was brought safely into the harbour by a coxswain who had been outside the pier in his boat waiting for her approach. The master reported that two vessels were astern of him at some distance trying to make the port. The pilot again ventured out, and had been no more seen, nor had the vessels arrived. Mr. Appleyard, the harbour-master, states that between three and four o'clock on Saturday morning he saw a merchant vessel or collier drifting towards the rocks about three miles south of the town at a part of the bay where vessels have frequently been wrecked. He watched her until she drove up to the rocks in the very midst of a fearful sea, when her lights disappeared and no more was seen of her. Not a vestige remains of the ship, and the crew could have no possible means of escape. It was feared she was one of the vessels above alluded to, which were both Scarborough ships. The greatest fears were entertained for the numerous fishing craft which were out at sea, and it is believed serious disasters have occurred to them. In the town great damage was done to property. In Blenheim-street the upper part of a house was blown away completely, including part of the outer walls. A photographic gallery in the same neighbourhood was destroyed entirely, and a similar erection in the centre of the town was shattered to pieces. A new villa at Falsgrave was razed to the ground. The roof of St. Peter's (Roman Catholic) Church was much injured; and in every street at the north of the town the debris of fallen buildings or roofs was to be met with.

The gale fell with peculiar violence upon the fishing-smacks employed about Yarmouth and Lowestoft, and two of these vessels, manned by ten persons each, were seen to founder by other vessels whose crews were fortunate enough to reach the harbour.

The Coupland, of Shields, was driven ashore at Scarborough. All on board, however, were saved. The life-boat's crew were ejected, two of them being drowned. Lord Charles Beauleck and a gentleman were drowned while attempting a rescue. The life-boat was wrecked.

The gale was severely felt near Liverpool. Several vessels have been lost: one of these, a schooner, went down when off Taylor's Bank, at the entrance to the Mersey. A seaman's chest was washed ashore at Waterloo. On opening it, in addition to clothes and other articles, was found a Manx almanack, in which was written, "John Gibson, Saltney; John Davies, Greenfield, Holywell." No tidings have yet been heard of the crew of the wrecked schooner, and the general opinion is that they have all perished. The chest washed on shore at Waterloo is supposed to have belonged to some one on board the ill-fated schooner.

The brig Solide, from Cardenas de Cuba, with sugar, for Bristol, via Queenstown, was lost on the Skerweathers (sands, five miles south of the Mumbles) during Friday night. A schooner was lost on the same place, with, it is feared, all on board. There was also a schooner ashore on Breaksea.

At Leith, Dunbar, and other points of the Scotch coast, the gale broke with great severity, and much damage to shipping and other property is reported.

On Saturday morning, between seven and eight, snow fell in London and in places at a great distance. The flakes were very large, and the snow continued to fall for half an hour; but it soon disappeared from off the ground, although it remained on the housetops for several hours. The previous night had been very cold, and such continued to be the case even after the snow had fallen. Saturday continued very cold, as did Sunday, although the wind was not so bitter as on the previous day. The changes of wind during this time were considerable.

WRECK OF THE SCARBOROUGH LIFE-BOAT.—In a communication received by the National Life-boat Institution, relative to the wreck of the Scarborough life-boat, from J. Woolall, Esq., banker, of Scarborough, it is stated:—"The life-boat more than answered all the expectations of the crew; and they have this morning (Nov. 4) told me that the misfortune of the coxswain (poor old Claybourne) being washed out in the act of getting the boat round, was the cause of all the mischief. They thus lost a moment of invaluable time, in endeavouring to get him in again, and lost heart when it was most wanted. A moment later and nothing could be done. Claybourne was saved after twenty minutes, and is doing well; all the rest of the crew, except two who were lost, are also doing well. The oars were torn out of the hands of the crew and the rowlocks, and the helpless boat was thrown up and down like a ball in front of the Spa wall. How the men kept in her at all is beyond my power of imagination. Nothing could upset her—not even the dash against the wall, when the sea was breaking at times twenty feet high. The boat is a complete wreck. Mrs. Cockroft, of Scarborough, has generously offered to give a new one. The new coxswain and all the enrolled crew, except one, were absent at sea, and, happily, the gale has been less severe outside than near the land. Some boats were still missing. Lord C. Beauleck and W. Tiddall, Esq., are crushed to death, and the latter washed away; his body has not yet been found. Lord C. Beauleck survived a short time. Collections were made in the churches yesterday to a considerable amount, and I have no doubt that public sympathy will be general."

DESTRUCTIVE INUNDATIONS IN FRANCE.—Extensive inundations have taken place in the neighbourhood of Castres (Tarn). Owing to extraordinary heavy rains, the River Agout a few days since began rising very rapidly at Bressac, and having before long overflowed its banks carried away a spinning manufactory and a mill which stood thereon. Parts of the materials of these edifices were driven by the current against a bridge, and pressed so violently on it that after a while it gave way. Many houses in the town were inundated, and among them that of the Mayor. The waters entered the latter so rapidly that the chief magistrate and his family had to escape by a window. Two of the houses and some buildings were swept away, and others sustained serious damage. Although many persons were in imminent danger, no life was lost. At many other places the same river overflowed, and did great damage. At Valre and Luzieux bridges were injured, and in the latter village part of a mill was washed away. At Labessonrie several trees were uprooted. Roquecombe was completely inundated, and the waters rushed into the church with such rapidity that an aged priest who was celebrating mass would probably have been drowned if a gentleman had not carried him off on his back. Two girls caught by the waters in a field had to climb up a tree. At Berlat two houses were carried away, and a number of others, as also several manufactories, sustained grievous damage. At Castres itself, Saix, Vielmer, and some other places, there were inundations, but no great damage was done owing to timely precautions having been taken.

COTTON CULTURE IN VENEZUELA.—A prospectus has been issued of the Venezuela Cotton Company, with a capital of £200,000, in £5 shares. The object is gradually to cultivate a well-known tract of land of about 235,400 acres, called the Bolivar Estate, directly open to water carriage, and within seventeen days' communication with England. A statement addressed to the directors by Mr. Linden, who was selected by the King of the Belgians to make a scientific report on the resources of Venezuela, affirms that, as regards soil, irrigation, climate, and population, the district offers every guarantee for complete success. It remains to be seen if the Manchester and other capitalists interested in the question will investigate the character of the enterprise, and, in the event of their inquiries being satisfactorily met, accord it the requisite support.

OLD BARISTERS.—A gentleman who applied for his ticket of admission at the Middle Temple last week said to the Treasurer that he believed he was the oldest member of the Inn, having been called fifty-one years ago. "I assure you, Sir," said the Treasurer, "you are a long way off, there being as many as thirty before you." The gentleman who was thus made so very much a junior is seventy-seven years of age.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE new opera of "Ruy Blas" at Covent Garden grows in popular favour as the singers gain facility in their music. Miss Pyne's principal songs, her duets with Mr. Harrison, and the latter's one effective ballad, are now waited for by the audience with expectant interest, and are always received with delight. Mr. Santley, whose return to the English Opera is a circumstance on which the management as well as frequenters are to be congratulated, wins nightly abundant honours by his opening scene. The new American contralto, Miss Jessie McLean, is steadily working her way, and will in time take a high position. The opera is so well appointed in every respect, that its merit as a work of art has not been obscured in any matter of detail, even the most trifling; and, while the band and chorus contribute their full share to the success, they are not more creditable to the excellent conducting of Mr. Mellon than are the several points of stage management to the discretion and care of Mr. Leigh Murray.

If winter was necessary to the commencement of the series of Crystal Palace concerts which are named by that season, the requirement was amply fulfilled on Saturday last, when the inclosing and warming of the concert-room near the transept were not superfluous measures. The entertainment was an earnest of excellence for the concerts which are to come. Beethoven's symphony in D, perhaps the most melodious of his "tuneful nine," was played with a perfection of ensemble which bespeaks a habit in the orchestra of Mr. Manns of playing frequently together. The larghetto, being the best-known movement, made the greatest impression, if it did not most justly prove the efficient character of the band. We give equal credit to the players in their execution of Weber's overture to "Oberon," Méhul's overture to "Le Jeune Henri," and a new "Jubilant-Overture," by Herr Plotow, which exhibits that composer in a more scientific light than usual, and is characterised by all his piquancy of expression. The vocal portion of the concert was judiciously chosen. Haydn's "Spirit Song" was delicately sung by Mme. Lemmens-Sherrington, who also rendered very charmingly a new and elaborate waltz, by Mr. Manns, to the words "Begone, dull Care." Miss Susannah Cole was more successful in Macfarren's well-known song, "The beating of my own heart," than in the cavatina, "Di Piacere," from Donizetti's opera, "La Gazza Ladra." Herr Reichardt showed his versatility of style in singing "Love in her eyes," from "Acis and Galatea," and a polonaise of his own arrangement, with florid variations. The concert of to-day (Saturday) will introduce Mlle. Whitty to a Crystal Palace audience, and will bring back M. Ole Ball, whose weird fancies have been missed from London concert-rooms for two or three months past.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Sir E. Perrott, Baronet, in the chair. The meeting expressed much commiseration for the families of the two poor men who lost their lives by the wrecking or breaking-up of the Scarborough life-boat against the seawall. The institution made a liberal gratuity to their families, and a reward to the life-boat's crew. The meeting also expressed deep sympathy for the relatives of Lord C. Beauleck and other gentlemen who perished while nobly attempting to save the lives of their fellow-creatures on the occasion. The cause of this sad disaster will be found in another column; but we may here state that such a circumstance as a life-boat being wrecked is, we believe, without a parallel in the history of life-boats, and it is much feared that lamentable want of skill was exhibited on the occasion in her management. The institution decided on presenting a memorial silver medal to the families of the late Lord C. Beauleck and W. Tyndall, Esq., as a permanent mark of its sympathy for them. Considering that the National Life-boat Institution has now about one hundred and twenty life-boats under its management, disasters will occasionally happen under the best management in such a fleet. The society has accordingly two or three life-boats always ready to meet any emergency; and it was reported on Thursday that steps had already been taken by it to replace the wrecked Scarborough boat by another powerful one. Rewards amounting to £63 10s. were voted to the crews of the life-boats of the institution stationed at Seaton Carew, Bacton, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Bridlington, Banff, and Cahore for saving thirty-six lives from different wrecks during the late severe gale. Several other rewards were also voted to the crews of the Porthwll, Fleetwood, and Arklow life-boats of the society for going off with the view of saving life; and also to shore-boats, for their laudable exertions in rescuing life from different wrecks. Life-boats on the plan of those of the institution have been sent during the past month to the order of the respective Governments of the Cape of Good Hope, Spain, and Jersey. It was reported that the town of Ipswich was about setting a noble example to other towns in behalf of the life-boat cause. To-morrow (Sunday) a collection in its behalf is to be made in all the churches and chapels of Ipswich; and on Monday a public meeting, to be attended by the Mayor and some of the nobility of the county, is to be held at the Townhall, when it is expected the cost of at least one life-boat will be announced to have been the result. Payments amounting to £300 having been made on various life-boat establishments, the proceedings closed.

INTERMENT OF MRS. BROWNING.—A Florence correspondent writes:—"Shortly before sunset arrived the conveyance with the last remains of her whose resting-place will assuredly consecrate this spot into one for the pilgrimage and reverence of future ages. A large garland of white flowers and a laurel wreath lay on the plain unpretending hearse now driven up to the entrance on the high road. Here the coffin was removed to be placed within the gateway-lodge, where the English clergyman commenced the service from the Anglican Liturgy; and at this moment a numerous group stood, many deeply affected, not a few with tears, around the bier of that gloriously-gifted woman. Among them I noticed Francesco dall'Oregano, one of Italy's first living poets; Mr. Storey, the well-known American sculptor and writer; Mr. Antony Trollope; and, supported by the last two, the widowed husband, whose presence at such a time surprised me, for he was evidently prostrated by grief to the last degree. Scarcely did it seem, to stand, and bewilder as one lost in an overwhelming dream, poor Mr. Browning looked, indeed, as if a blight had passed over his existence for which there could be no earthly healing. Followed by these mourners, the coffin was then carried up the central avenue to the freshly-dug grave, prepared for only one tenant near that cross and pillar; and during the remainder of the rite here performed over the open burial-place I could observe the sorrowful self-possession of that group of chief mourners, the widower just able to control himself from an outburst of feeling, and his and her child, a fine boy of sweetly-intelligent countenance, showing amidst his emotion a self-command beyond his years. He reminded me of his mother, in feature and expression, as he stood bareheaded, with long wavy hair, that child of illustrious parentage; and there stood an accomplished lady, Miss Blagden, the bosom friend of the deceased, whose sorrow seemed scarce less than that of her nearest and dearest. I looked into the still open grave after the sublime service had closed and the chief mourners had slowly passed away, and there saw the coffin of the great poetess, the white rose-wreath at the feet, the laurel-crown at the head, the newly-scattered dust on the sable cover, the name and date of death; while the line recording her age was hidden, being alone legible on the inscription partially concealed by that crown appropriately laid with the remains, just about to be for ever covered by earth—wreath and garland, and dead."

THE INVENTOR OF THE PNEUMATIC CONVEYANCE SYSTEM.—A correspondent requests us to state that Mr. George Medhurst, the inventor of the system of pneumatic conveyance, was not a Danish engineer, as stated by us in an article which appeared in our pages some weeks ago, but an Englishman, and belonged to the family of Medhurst of Shoreham, in Kent.

THE COLONY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—At present the colony is very sparsely populated. A country as capacious as some eight united kingdoms possesses less than the population of many a quiet English town. In time, however, the rich loam in the Herefordshire-like district beyond the dividing Darling range, vaguely known as the "country over the hills," will be thickly dotted with farmsteads, and produce not only corn enough for the colony's consumption, but a large surplus for exportation. There was a considerable increase in the exports of Western Australian produce for 1859. The value was £93,037, against £78,648 in 1858. Copper-ore, timber, sandal-wood, and wool were the articles which contributed most largely to this increase. At the end of 1859 twelve mines were working in Western Australia—eight copper and four lead. The Wheel Fortune Copper Mine is reported to yield an average of about 28 per cent of metal, the Geraldine Lead Mine 84 per cent. Western Australian timber has already won a wide celebrity for its endurance. It defies the borers and crumblers which by land and sea soon riddle and rot the majority of woods. It also preserves from rust iron driven into it. There is a great demand for it in India for railway sleepers. The sandal-wood is chiefly exported to Singapore. Wool, of course, depends upon grass. With great pleasure, therefore, we read that the pasturage of Western Australia is remarkably improved and improving. Besides those already specified, the exports of Western Australia are horses for the Indian army, oil, whalebone, raisins, currants, olives, and gum.

FATAL COAL-PIT ACCIDENTS.

On Tuesday week an explosion took place at the Prince Albert Pit, Shevington, near Wigan, belonging to Messrs. J. Tayleur and Co. In the morning the miners were startled by a loud explosion of fire-damp, which seemed to take place nearer the shaft than where most of them were working. Many were severely scorched, but a large number succeeded in escaping the fire, and pushed on fast to the pit eye. In this short time many were successful; but ten others—some without any external injury, and others with faces scorched beyond recognition—were met by the deadly after-damp, which struck them down one by one. Information of the explosion was soon conveyed above ground; and whilst the struggle for life was taking place below Mr. Makinson, the manager, and Mr. Close, the fireman, descended the shaft, and, at the head of a searching party, proceeded to make their way up the south side of the mine. About one-half the men were met as the party proceeded, some few unscathed, but others frightfully disfigured. All who were alive were got out and provided with medical assistance; and the search for those who, it was feared, were now beyond human aid was continued with vigour. Soon the bodies of four were discovered, but the chokedamp prevented the remainder being reached till half-past three in the afternoon. Not one of the dead men was found in his working-place; all had been making their way out when struck down, and two, a father and his son, had evidently mistaken their road. Ten men were killed and a number injured. The scene, as the bodies were brought to the surface, was most heartrending. The low moaning, in which the grief of bereaved mothers and wives found vent, was sufficient to melt the stoutest heart. The bodies themselves presented a most appalling spectacle—identification, now being, in some instances, almost impossible. The gas is said to have ignited from contact with an open lamp. Another circumstance which tended to deepen the gloom hanging over the neighbourhood is the death of Ann Reed, wife of Thomas Reed, stated to be burnt. She had been to Wigan to market, and had left home in the morning before the accident. On her return she is said to have died a few minutes after the information of the explosion was conveyed to her. Another of the injured men has since died, making in all twelve victims by this sad event.

On Wednesday morning week two youths, named Brown and Shepherd, the one aged sixteen and the other twenty, were killed at the Haigh Colliery, near Wigan, the property of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres. The deceased were going down the shaft in a cage, along with a man named Samuel Melling, about five o'clock in the morning, when Shepherd's coat-tails became entangled in one of the boxes which work on the conducting-rods. The men, terrified by the nature of their position, and thinking that the rope of the contrary cage had broken, got out of their cage and began to slide down the conducting-rod. Melling went first and got safely to the bottom, but had scarcely got out of the way when Brown and Shepherd fell down on the scaffold. Melling immediately went to them, and found that both of them were dead. Mr. Higson, the Government inspector of mines, was present at the inquest, and he was quite satisfied that the accident was not the result of any neglect. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

THE LOVES OF CAPTAIN MAGAN AND MISS ELLEN MILES.

SOME two years ago an action for breach of promise of marriage was set down for trial at Bristol, which, falling at a very dull time of year, was made the most of by the Bristol papers. In commercial language they "discounted" the trial before it arrived at maturity, and after they had whetted the public appetite for several days with anticipatory allusions to the wealth of the bridegroom, the beauty of the bride, and the long array of love-letters, expectation was disappointed by a compromise—the defendant consenting to a verdict against him for £2000, and the plaintiff agreeing to deliver up his "love letters." The parties to this suit were Miss Ellen Miles, daughter of a fishmonger in Sherborne, and Mr. Magan, an Irish gentleman. Many pooh-poohed the idea of £2000 being intended to be paid; others thought the gentleman must be a poor one; but the facts are beyond dispute that the £2000 was paid and invested with all legal security and form for Miss Ellen's benefit, and that the defendant was an Irish member of Parliament, who had previously married the daughter of an Earl! Mr. Wm. Henry Magan, formerly member for Westmeath, and son of the late Mr. W. Henry Magan, of Clonearl, King's County, was a Cornet in the 9th Lancers, and afterwards a Captain in the 4th Light Dragoons, and whilst doing duty with his regiment at Dorchester he became acquainted with many persons in the county town who can still call him to mind. Miss E. Miles was assistant at Swan and Edgar's when she formed the acquaintance of Mr. Magan, and it would seem that in the correspondence which was carried on between the parties, marriage was promised—at all events, Mr. Magan, who knew as well as any one what his letters contained, consented to pay £2000 for the privilege of burning them. We may here state that, by a very singular coincidence, a gentleman connected with the press happened to be at the house of a friend in an assize town in the west of England (not Bristol) just before the case was heard of in public. The friend, desiring to show him some curious engravings, took him over the house, and, pointing to a large bundle of papers on a table, said, "There is a brief in a breach of promise case, containing all the love letters." It afterwards transpired that these were the letters to which so costly a price was attached, and it is not a little strange that, jealously guarded as they afterwards were, they should have been unconsciously placed within the power of observation of a person who, living in the same town as the plaintiff, had, coming from a distance, happened to alight on the very room in which the correspondence lay! The case became a "nine days' wonder," and then was forgotten. A couple of years after it may be, the actors again appeared upon the scene, and on the 21st of August Mr. William Henry Magan, of Clonearl, Ireland, is united in the holy bonds of matrimony, at York Church, to Miss Ellen Miles, of Sherborne. Now comes "the last and scene of all," a local journal announces the death of Mr. Magan, at Weymouth—a month after his romantic marriage. After staying some little time at Sherborne, where his conduct was not quite that of a total abstainer, he and his wife went off to Weymouth, and took up their abode at the Victoria Hotel, whence he removed into private lodgings, and died the day after he entered them, at the early age of forty-three. His body was taken to Dublin for interment. Although "the Captain," as he was still called, died embroiled, and, indeed, was about to compound with his creditors, his carriage and horses having been sold under an execution, yet his mother is possessed of considerable property, and the wife of a month will find her widowhood solaced by an income of £600 a year.

MILITARY RIOTS IN FRANCE.—A court-martial has been sitting at Versailles to try some carabineers for rioting with the artillery. There was bad blood between them on account of the superior attainments of the latter, and the fact that the carabineers were a picked corps, which had never seen any actual service. The artillery were in the habit of calling the carabineers "gendarmes," "useless," and, worst term of opprobrium of all, "English."

NOVEL CAPTURE OF A PICKPOCKET.—A pickpocket was caught in a very singular way on Thursday week, just as the Prince of Wales arrived at the Temple. He snatched a watch from a gentleman's pocket and made off with it, and had got as far as Messrs. Twining's when a cabman, in flourishing his whip, caught the man round the throat with it, and it fastened on him so tightly that it not only pulled him up, but almost strangled him. He was captured and the watch found on him.

CAVAL ATTEMPT AT MURDER.—A man named Friat, about forty-five years of age, residing at La Guerche, in France, rather more than a year ago married a young girl of fifteen. The union was not very happy, if we may judge by the event, but still there had been no open quarrels between them. On the night in question they retired to rest early, as usual, but about twelve o'clock the husband was awake by a burning sensation in his right ear, and on moving he felt a scalding fluid running down his cheek. It was melted lead, which his wife had poured into his ear. In a paroxysm of pain and anger the man jumped from the bed and seized an axe, with which he struck his wife three times, inflicting serious wounds. She implored mercy and shrieked for help, but the house being some distance from any other dwelling, her cries were not heard. At last she sank from exhaustion, and remained in that state till morning, when the husband went to a doctor to get his ear dressed, and also requested him to come and see his wife. The woman was found to have three wounds on the right side of the neck, too serious to admit of her removal. She confessed her guilt, and said that she had hoped by the means she employed to get rid of her husband without leaving any traces of her crime.

THE FRENCH POST OFFICE AND ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS.—English residents in Paris are beginning seriously to complain of the constant seizure of their newspapers, and of the delays which take place in their delivery when they are not seized. The cause of this, that no paper can be distributed until the Minister has signed a permission, and they frequently remain lying at the post office for upwards of twelve hours.

THE GERMANIC CONFEDERATION.—The Germanic Diet reassembled a few days back at Frankfurt. From the propositions already submitted to it, the Diet appears to have a laborious task to perform. Thus, Hunsrück, having decided negatively, has changed her mind and presented her famous project for the defence of the coasts and creation of a German navy—a project which would deprive Prussia of the direction of the movement in favour of the fleet. The Government of Sax-Coburg demands that the motion of Hesse-Darmstadt against the National Association, which its supporters only timidly defend, shall at last be discussed and disposed of. The question of the reform of the political organisation of the Confederation is also soon to be placed on the order of the day, the representative of Sax-Coburg having strongly insisted on the necessity of satisfying the national wish by taking up that grave question.

SCOTCHSEQUESTERATIONS. — W. FORREST, Brockley, Lanarkshire, grocer. — P. DURNAN, Glasgow, boot and shoe maker. — W. YOUNG, Bishopmill, near Egin, builder. — J. SCOTT, jun., and J. SCOTT sen Greenock, ship-builders.

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CLERGY ORPHAN CORPORATION.—Boys' School—St. Thomas's-hill, Canterbury. Girls' School—St. John's-wood, Marylebone. The next Election will take place in November.

Candidates should be nominated immediately. Children are eligible between the ages of 8 and 12. Forms of application may be had at the Clergy Office, 7, Pall Mall. Eight boys and eight girls will be elected. The votes polled by unsuccessful candidates are allowed to accumulate. 140 children are now in the schools. Contributions are earnestly solicited to enable the Committee to extend their operations. Annual subscription for one vote, 6s. 1s. Life subscription for one vote, £10 10s.
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Contributions towards this national Charity are earnestly requested. There are at the present time more than 200 inmates; and, although the number of applicants varies from 150 to 180 at each half-yearly election, the Board can only elect 20. They would gladly announce a larger number for admission if the funds permitted. "A Second View to Earlswood," by the Rev. Edwin Sidney, A.M., and other pamphlets illustrating the workings of the Charity, may be had gratuitously, on application to the Secretary, Mr. William Nicholas, to whom all orders regularly to be made payable.

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